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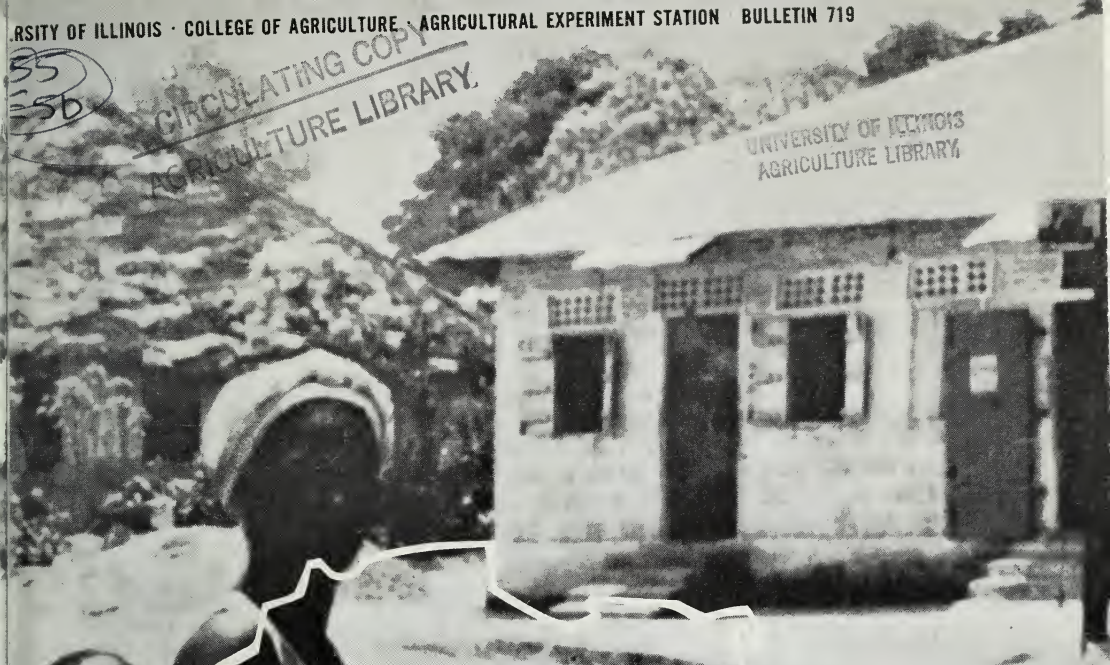

Changes in Incomes and Imports of Consumer Goods in Sierra Leone

JEAN M. DUE

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Changes in Incomes and Imports of Consumer Goods in Sierra Leone

JEAN M. DUE

VISITING PROFESSOR OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

The College of Agriculture has both a general and a special interest in Sierra Leone. In general, we are interested in the problems of developing nations that involve the theory and practices relating to economic and general development. The special interest is in our contract with the Agency for International Development to assist in establishing Njala University College, which is now in its third year of operation.

This particular publication is expected to contribute to both interests by providing a benchmark study on which other analyses can be built and by providing descriptive materials immediately useful in our AID-supported institution-building program.

Dr. Due, the author of this publication, visited Sierra Leone in 1965 as part of a Hatch project on U.S. agricultural exports and economic development in Africa. At the time the study was made Mrs. Due was a visiting professor with the Department of Agricultural Economics.

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Urbana, Illinois August, 1966

Publications in the Bulletin series report the results of investigations made or sponsored by the Experiment Station

THIS STUDY was designed to compare the relative rates of growth of national income and consumer expenditures in a small, newly independent country desirous of fairly rapid economic development. Sierra Leone became independent in 1961; hence, it is too early to compare relative rates of growth before and after independence. There was little manufacturing in Sierra Leone from 1950 to 1963, so most consumer goods, with the exception of food, housing, fuel, medical, and personal services, were imported. Incomes rose markedly during the period because of a diamond boom starting in 1954. As incomes rose, did consumer expenditures keep up with or exceed the pace of income? Has a disproportionate share of the income increase been allocated to imports of consumer goods instead of being available to finance development? It was questions such as these that guided this study.

Such a comparison of relative rates of growth of income and consumer expenditures assumes that government estimates are available for the period under consideration. However, the government of Sierra Leone has not published such annual estimates. Individual spot estimates of gross national product (GNP), discussed below, have been made for Sierra Leone or for broader regions which include Sierra Leone.

One of the biggest problems in estimating national income is the lack of data on agricultural and trade incomes. Data on many other sectors of the economy (mining, manufacturing, most construction activity, and the public sector) are available. Data on the export sector of the agricultural economy are released by the Customs and Excise Department and the Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Board (SLPMB). It is the subsistence sector which is most difficult to estimate. A statistical survey of representative agricultural areas producing rice and groundnuts was made during the 1965 crop year. When data from this survey are available, it will be somewhat easier to proceed with gross national product estimates.

Data on external trade entering through the port at Freetown, the capital, are extensive; these data are now being processed by the

newly created Central Statistics Office (CSO) and are being released promptly. However, there has been considerable smuggling across the Guinean and Liberian borders, especially of diamonds out of the country (from 1954 to 1960) and of rice, cigarettes, cocoa, and coffee into Sierra Leone in exchange for textiles, cigarettes, and other manufactured goods.[1] Cattle entries from Guinea are estimated but the magnitude of the other trade across the borders is difficult to estimate. Consideration is being given to the formation of a free trade area including Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and the Ivory Coast. In anticipation of this, the 1965 budget eliminated the Commonwealth preferential tariff.

A population census was taken in 1963[2] but there are no systematic government estimates for preceding or later years. Data on employment and consumer prices are collected by the Labour Department; consumer price indexes are compiled for Freetown and the mining areas. Relevant data will be presented in more detail following a general discussion of the economy of Sierra Leone.

ECONOMIC BACKGROUND

Sierra Leone, a small country of 27,925 square miles (approximately half the size of Illinois), is situated on the west coast of Africa between Guinea on the west and north and Liberia on the east.[3] The colony was founded by British philanthropists who came to Freetown with freed slaves from England, the West Indies, and Nova Scotia as early as 1787, settling on land purchased from the Temme king.[4] Later they were joined by other slaves who were freed on the high seas and brought to Freetown. Their descendents, called the Creoles, consider themselves the aristocrats of the country; they live principally in Freetown and along the coast, accounting for about one-quarter of the population of this area. The hinterland became a British protectorate in 1896. There are at least 13 tribes, each with its own language and customs. The two major tribes, the Temme and the Mende, account for one-fourth and one-third of the population, respectively.

[1] Commodities smuggled depended on relative prices at the time.

[2] Sierra Leone's population in 1963 was 2.2 million with 195,023 in the western area, 542,187 in the southern province, 545,579 in the eastern province, and 897,565 in the northern province. Freetown had a population of 127,917. There are approximately 1,000 Europeans and 4,000 Syrians, Lebanese, and Asians in the country.

[3] The name, which means Lion Mountain, was given in 1460 by the early Portuguese explorers who thought they heard lions roar during thunderstorms in the mountainous peninsula.

[4] *Sierra Leone: The Making of a Nation,* Central Office of Information Reference Pamphlet, London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1961, p. 4.

Map of Sierra Leone showing major mining regions. (Fig. 1)

Agriculture

It is estimated that 80 percent of the population is engaged in agriculture, mostly of a subsistence nature. The major agricultural exports are palm oil and palm kernels, cocoa, coffee, ginger, kola nuts, and piassava. Rice is the staple food of Sierra Leone; domestic production has had to be supplemented by imports during recent years. Groundnuts, tobacco, cassava, yams, maize, guinea corn, citrus fruits, pineapples, and bananas are also grown. Agriculture is based on a tribal land tenure system with private ownership of land only in the region of the former colony; however, cocoa, coffee, and oil palm trees may be owned privately anywhere in Sierra Leone, although many of them grow wild.

Preparing land for sowing rice, the staple food of Sierra Leone. (Fig. 2)

The traditional farming system on the uplands is one of bush-fallow rotation with bush being cleared for farming once in five to ten years. Goats, sheep, and chickens are raised by most farmers. Due to the presence of the tsetse fly along the coast, cattle are raised primarily in the north. The N'Dama cattle of Sierra Leone are one of the breeds most resistant to the tsetse fly. Cattle are owned primarily by the Fula tribe and are walked long distances for slaughter in Freetown or other towns.

N'Dama cattle being driven to market in Freetown. (Fig. 3)

Mining

The principal minerals exported (iron ore, diamonds, and chrome ore) were discovered in the early 1930's and have contributed significantly to the expansion of Sierra Leone's economy. In 1950, the declared value of all minerals produced was £3.3 million and, in 1960, £20.5 million.[1] The rapid increase between 1950 and 1961 was due mainly to the diamond boom, starting around 1954, which increased diamond exports tenfold. The value of iron ore trebled between 1950 and 1960, while exports of other minerals, such as chrome ore and gold, tapered off after 1953.[2] Bauxite production started in 1963 and rutile (a titanium-bearing mineral) is expected to be in production in 1966.

Manufacturing

Prior to independence there was little manufacturing in Sierra Leone, and most of the needs of the country were met by importation.[3] A steady growth in public and private industrial development has occurred over the years. Some examples of the public or semi-public industries are the government rice mills, the SLPMB pioneer oil mills for the extraction of palm oil, and the Forest Industry Division (now Forest Industries Corporation) sawmill and timber utilization industry at Kenema, producing furniture, prefabricated housing, carved wooden products, and lumber. The Road Transport Department operates vehicle repair shops, one of which also builds bus bodies. The railway repair shops service private heavy equipment as well as the railway; there is a government printing plant which does printing for the government and semi-official bodies.

Private and semi-private industries produce consumer goods, mainly for the local market. These industries include the Aureol Tobacco Company (a subsidiary of the British-American Tobacco Company), Van Camp's tuna cannery, Sea Products Limited (freezing and distributing frozen fish), a brewery, a distillery (70 percent government owned), soft drink plants, a sawmill at Katema, and small factories producing footwear, paint, umbrellas, furniture, nails, oxygen acytelene and carbon dioxide, mineral water, and ice, mostly located in Freetown.

[1] Although the monetary unit of Sierra Leone became the Leone in 1964, the West African pound (£) is used throughout this report, as official data were so reported between 1950 and 1963. The value of the West African pound was equivalent to and at par with the British pound.

[2] Annual Trade Reports.

[3] *A Progress Report on Economic and Social Development, April 27, 1961–March 31, 1965,* Freetown: Government Printer of Sierra Leone, 1965, p. 53.

A cement clinker factory is being built currently. During 1964–65 negotiations were carried out to begin the manufacture of garments and knitwear, galvanized and corrugated iron sheets, textiles, shoes, tomato paste and puree, and paper; to retread tires; to mill flour; to refine oil; to process palm kernels; and to establish a diamond-cutting industry. Most of these projects should have significant import substitution effects when completed. There is also small-scale production of tile, soap, and furniture, and there are village industries of cloth weaving, fish curing and smoking, boat making, and basket work.

Building and Construction

Building and construction is important in Sierra Leone, employing up to 10,000 workers, or as many as manufacturing and mining combined. The rate of building and construction activity is partly reflected in imports of such materials as cement and corrugated sheets for roof covering; imports of cement have increased from £117 million in 1950 to £445 million in 1963, and corrugated sheets from £29 million in 1950 to £470 million in 1963.[1]

Retail Trade

Domestic trade, including retail and wholesale trade of domestic and imported goods, is conducted mainly by Syrians, Lebanese, Europeans, and some Indians. Outside shops, booths, and hawking and selling in village and city markets are almost entirely in the hands of Africans. The Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Board (SLPMB), established in 1949, controls the marketing of the major export crops: palm oil and kernels, cocoa, coffee, groundnuts, and benniseed.

Marketing of these products is well organized and price data are well disseminated. However, the marketing of other agricultural commodities is much less organized. Local products are normally sold to the Lebanese and Syrian merchants, often in return for merchandise or seed rather than for cash. Storage facilities of individual peasant farmers are virtually nonexistent, storage in the tropics being a difficult problem. Price data are known principally by the merchants.

Rice marketing has been seriously hampered recently by the introduction of a law preventing foreigners from dealing in rice; prior to passage of the law this trade was largely in the hands of Syrian traders. No substitute has yet been found, leaving the farmers with unsold stocks of rice and no cash to finance the preparations for next year's

[1] Annual Trade Reports.

crop. The government hoped that producers would sell through the co-ops and thus increase the return to the producers, but the co-ops did not have the funds to pay in cash; thus, chaos resulted. The co-operative movement is growing, however, and may play a more significant role in marketing in the future.

Perishable commodities such as meat, fruit, eggs, and vegetables are subject to seasonal fluctuations in supply and price, a disadvantage to both producers and consumers. Vegetables can be grown successfully in the Kabala and other regions of the north with proper cultivation practices, but facilities to transport them to Freetown are not available; consequently, large quantities of vegetables are imported, especially for the expatriate population. Feasibility studies are needed to see if air transport would be economical to transport meat and vegetables to Freetown.

Many cattle come into Sierra Leone from Guinea and are walked many miles to Bo and Freetown before they are slaughtered. There is a very efficient "butcher's ring" in the Freetown area which agrees to slaughter only a limited number of cattle per day or week and arranges with the Syrian and Lebanese traders for payment in goods, often with a delay of as much as six months to the cattle owner, with obvious advantages to the butchers and the traders. Since the Fula tribesmen are not anxious to part with their cattle anyway (live cattle represent visible symbols of wealth), it is not surprising that this system of marketing does not encourage them to change their views.

The building of slaughter houses and storage facilities in the north and central parts of the country with provision for air or road transport to the centers of population, together with better price information and possibly the establishment of livestock purchasing stations (paying in cash), should improve the situation markedly.

Banking Services

The government of Sierra Leone established a central bank, the Bank of Sierra Leone, in 1964 and changed the currency from the West African pound, which was at par with the British pound, to the Leone, which is worth 10 U.K. shillings. Thus two Leone are equivalent to and currently at par with the British pound. Each Leone consists of 100 cents. Notes in denominations of 1, 2, and 5 Leone are in circulation.

There are three commercial banks: Bank of West Africa, Barclays (D.C. and O.), and Intra Bank (a Lebanese bank established in 1963); each has branches throughout the country.

DEVELOPMENT PLANNING[1]

Development plans were drawn up and passed by the legislature as early as 1946.[2] In 1962, a new ten-year plan for the period 1962–63 to 1971–72 was prepared by Dr. David Carney, a Sierra Leone economist,[3] and adopted by Parliament. This plan was drawn up in a matter of months and encouraged many government departments to consider their long-term requirements and goals; needs of the country rather than methods of finance were emphasized. The public sector was to spend £99 million in capital costs and £53 million in recurrent development costs during the first five years of the period; this would require at least a fivefold increase from past levels of expenditure. The estimates of domestic financing (£15 million a year) and external aid (£14 million a year) have not been attained to date. (See Table 4, page 14, for current development expenditures.)

Since Dr. Carney resigned to take a position with the U.N. African Institute for Economic Development and Planning in Dakar, Mr. Robert Clifford, a United Nations economist, has been assisting government officials in development planning. A revised five-year plan is being drawn up for the 1965–1970 period.

Development projects are under way, some examples of which are transportation and other surveys and feasibility studies (that are being carried out or that have been completed), and a World Bank loan has been secured for electricity production in the Freetown area. The United Kingdom has financed the Guma Valley Water Project which is piping water to Freetown; West Germany has loaned money for road construction, the United Kingdom for the development and extension of Lungi Airport, and a French contracting group for the extension of the dock facilities; a Republic of China demonstration team has begun work on vegetables and paddy rice cultivation; Philips of Holland has begun an improved telephone communications system; and a French engineering firm is providing treated water supplies to 21 provincial

[1] See also *A Progress Report on Economic and Social Development, April 27, 1961–March 31, 1965, op. cit.* and P. E. Beach, "The Host Country Side of Multilateral Investment Guarantees: A Critique of Foreign Investment in Sierra Leone and Several Proposals Regarding an Investment Guarantee Institute." Prepared for O.E.C.D.

[2] *An Outline of the Ten-Year Plan for the Development of Sierra Leone,* Freetown: Government Printer of Sierra Leone, 1946; Hubert Childs, *A Plan of Economic Development for Sierra Leone,* Freetown: Government Printer of Sierra Leone, 1949; and D. T. Jack, *Economic Survey of Sierra Leone,* Freetown: Government Printer of Sierra Leone, 1958.

[3] D. Carney, *Ten-Year Plan of Economic and Social Development for Sierra Leone, 1962–63 to 1971–72,* Freetown: Government Printer of Sierra Leone, 1962.

towns. Government, educational, commercial, and office buildings and a hotel have been built; another hotel is under construction; wharf facilities have been expanded; a census has been completed; and roads have been built.

Government Revenues

The major sources of ordinary (as contrasted with developmental) government revenue are customs and export duties, other taxes (company income taxes and concessions duties, personal income taxes, mined and alluvial diamond levies, and poll taxes), licenses, and miscellaneous fees. The relative importance of these revenue sources is shown in Table 1; customs and export duties account for approximately 50 percent of the revenue with direct taxes providing between 20 and 36 percent from 1950 to 1962–63. Over 80 percent of the duties on international trade is derived from customs duties on imports, with those on tobacco, food, and alcoholic beverages accounting for the largest share. Motor, liquor, and diamond licenses and fees from miscellaneous government services are included under "other" sources. The importance of these items as revenue sources has increased over time; currently, they provide 35 percent of total revenue.

Table 1. — Principal Sources of Public Revenue in Selected Years[a]

Sources	1950	1957	1961–62	1962–63
			(percent)	
Customs and export duties	49	57	47	45
Customs	42	50	41	40
Export	7	7	6	5
Direct taxes	36	22	22	20
Other	15	21	31	35
Total	100	100	100	100
Total revenue (£000)	£2,943	£10,360	£13,473	£13,975

[a] D. Carney, *Ten-Year Plan of Economic and Social Development for Sierra Leone*, *op. cit.*, p. 12 and *Quarterly Statistical Bulletin*, No. 3, September 1964 and No. 4, December 1964, Central Statistics Office, Freetown: Government Printer of Sierra Leone, 1964.

Government Expenditures

The distribution of ordinary recurring government expenditures is shown in Table 2.

General administrative expenses varied between 33 and 45 percent of total government expenditures between 1950 and 1962–63; included

Table 2. — Recurring Government Expenditures in Selected Years[a]

Expenditures	1950	1957	1961–62	1962–63
			(percent)	
Administrative	45	33	39	44
Economic services	30	36	31	28
Social services	23	28	25	23
Public debt repayments	2	3	5	5
Total	100	100	100	100
Total recurring expenditures (£000)	£2,091	£7,791	£13,001	£13,412

[a] Same source as Table 1.

Table 3. — Government Development Expenditures for Selected Years[a]

Expenditures	1957	1961–62	1962–63
		(percent)	
Economic services	64	43	61
Social services	11	19	16
Other	25	38	23
Total	100	100	100
Total development expenditures (£000)	£3,086	£4,153	£3,276

[a] *Quarterly Statistical Bulletin*, No. 3, September 1964 and No. 4, December 1964.

Table 4. — Development Expenditures, Total General Revenue, and Public Debt Charges, 1961–1965[a]

Item	1961–62		1962–63		1963–64		1964–65[b]	
	£ millions	%	£ millions	%	£ millions	%	£ millions	%
Total general revenue	13.5	100	14.4	100	17.1	100	18.1	100
Total development expenditures	4.2	31	2.8	20	3.6	20	[c]	[c]
Contribution from domestic sources	1.6	12	1.6	11	1.2	7	[c]	[c]
Contribution from external sources	2.6	19	1.2	8	2.3	14	[c]	[c]
Public debt charges	.6	5	.7	4	.9	6	1.2	7

[a] *A Progress Report on Economic and Social Development, April 27, 1961–March 31, 1965, op. cit.*, p. 84.
[b] Estimate.
[c] Not available.

in the administrative budget were expenditures for legislative, judicial, police, and defense functions, information and publications, grants to local governments, and the general administration of the government.

Between 23 and 28 percent of total expenditures was allocated to social service (education, health, and related activities). Economic services (agriculture, transportation, communications, electricity, forest industries, forestry, etc.) received approximately 30 percent of total current expenditures.

Government expenditures on development for selected years are shown in Table 3; the content of economic and social service categories is the same as for recurring expenditures.

Financing of Development

A progress report on economic and social development in Sierra Leone since independence was released by the government in 1965; from this source development expenditures and development financing are shown in Table 4. Total development expenditures were higher in 1961 (independence year) than they have been since that time, and contributions from domestic sources have been decreasing, leaving greater reliance on external sources of finance. The external sources have been primarily Colonial Development and Welfare grants and other U.K. grants and loans; loans from the Sierra Leone Selection Trust, the Diamond Corporation, the Sierra Leone Development Company, and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development; and suppliers' credits.[1]

FAMILY LIVING

In Sierra Leone, as in other parts of British West and East Africa (with the exception of Uganda), the people typically live in small villages and walk as much as 10 miles to their small farms of 1 to 7 acres in size, sectors of which may be widely scattered.[2] Most of the cultivation is done by hand (largely by the women) using machetes and short-handled hoes.

Typical village houses have mud walls with thatched or metal roofs; they are square, rectangular, or round depending on the area. As incomes and knowledge of more durable building techniques have in-

[1] *A Progress Report on Economic and Social Development, April 27, 1961–March 31, 1965, op. cit.*, p. 83.

[2] For a discussion of family living and family budget studies in eight former British colonies of West and East Africa see Jean M. Due, "Family Expenditure Studies in Developing Economies," Part I, West Africa, and Part II, East Africa and Rhodesia, *Journal of Home Economics*, Vol. 56, No. 3, March 1964, pp. 169-175 and No. 5, May 1964, pp. 321-328.

creased, houses are being made of cinder blocks with metal roofs instead of with thatched roofs; metal roofs enable easier malaria control. Food is normally cooked outside in a metal pot over a wood fire. The climate is tropical so that clothing and housing needs are very different from those in North America.

A 1964 report on studies of African family life states: "Tribal life is still extremely important; land is typically owned by the tribe or the state and allocated by the tribal chief to the individual families. Rights to use particular pieces of land, however, are passed down in a family from one generation to the next. Hence, there is little private ownership of land except in the capital cities. In the cocoa- and coffee-producing areas, the trees — but not the land — are owned by the operator. The tribal council has important functions in determining punishment for infringements of tribal customs, and for settling disputes over possession of land, over divorce, tax assessment, and so forth.

"The African family typically operates within the context of the tribe and is greatly influenced by tribal customs. The family includes a much wider group than in North America; the extended family consists of grandfather, father, sons and their wives and children in one unit. Each is responsible to the other for food supplies, farm operation, and all income and expenditures. In patrilineal societies, the grandfather is responsible for the actions of his family (including the married sons and their children) and has claim to the land as long as he lives.[1]

"It is customary to undertake financial responsibility for other blood relatives regardless of their financial condition or willingness to find employment. Thus, if one member of the family leaves the village and finds more remunerative employment elsewhere, he is expected to support any blood relatives who decide to move in with him and his family. Also, he still has claim to any land to which his father has rights regardless of whether or not he has been assisting in the cultivation of the land. This built-in social security system has many advantages for the aged and the children.

"In the Moslem and other areas in which multiple wives are common, each wife typically has her own house and her children live with her; the husband has a hut of his own. Again, custom dictates the duties of each wife on the farm, etc."[2]

[1] In some areas with matrilineal customs, the grandmother fulfills this same role.

[2] Jean Due, "Family Expenditures in Developing Economies," *op. cit.*, pp. 169-70.

In the villages the way of life changes much more slowly than in the cities. Above is a nutrition demonstration; below is a river bank clothes washing scene. (Fig. 4)

Sierra Leone family budget studies were carried out in Freetown in 1951[1] and in Freetown and the mining areas in 1961.[2] A population census was required for the 1961 Freetown study to provide a sample frame and data on family size, housing, employment, and other characteristics. For this population census 20 blocks were selected randomly in Freetown. Data from the population census indicated that almost 38 percent of the houses were constructed of corrugated iron; 39 percent of the families had electricity; households averaged 4.2 persons; 37 percent of all households had 3 or more persons per room; 70 percent of the families occupied housing units of 2 rooms or less; and 77 percent of the families had incomes of £20 a month ($56) or less.

[1] K. M. Francis, *Report on the 1951 Freetown Survey of Household Budgets,* Freetown: Government Printer, 1955.

[2] *I.L.O. Report to the Government of Sierra Leone on Revision of the Consumer Price Index — Freetown; the Mining Workers Price Index; and Statistics of Employment, 1961;* Geneva, 1962.

Table 5. — Data on 1960 Freetown Households and Income[a]

Size of households	Percent of households
1 person	16.4
2 persons	17.2
3 persons	17.4
4 persons	13.0
5 persons	10.0
6 or 7 persons	12.8
8 or 9 persons	7.9
10 persons or more	5.3

Types of walls	Percent with specified walls	Percent with electricity	Percent without electricity
Masonry walls	23.2	62.2	37.8
Wooden walls	29.9	44.8	55.2
Corrugated iron walls	37.5	18.1	81.9
Mixed and other types	9.4	44.9	55.1
All types	100.0	38.9	61.1

Number of persons per room	Percent of households
1 person	29.3
More than 1 and less than 3 persons per room	33.8
3 or more persons per room	36.9

Number of rooms occupied by household	Percent of households
1 room	41.3
2 rooms	28.7
3 rooms	13.5
4 rooms	9.1
5 rooms	4.9
6 or more rooms	2.5

Monthly income	Percent of households earning specified amount	Percent of households living in owned home
Under 10 pounds	39.4	11.6
10–19 pounds	37.2	14.8
20–29 pounds	12.5	29.0
30–39 pounds	4.1	25.5
40–49 pounds	2.4	33.3
50–59 pounds	1.6	59.1
60 pounds or more	2.8	50.0
All households	100.0	17.8

Number of earners per family	Percent of families
1 earner	61.6
2 earners	27.2
3 earners	7.8
4 earners or more	3.4

	Percent earning specified amount		
Monthly income	Males	Females	All earners
Under 10 pounds	53.4	80.2	61.9
10–19 pounds	33.4	15.0	27.6
20–29 pounds	7.5	3.3	6.2
30–39 pounds	2.2	.9	1.8
40–49 pounds	1.7	.3	1.2
50–59 pounds	1.1	.3	.8
60 pounds and over	.7	.0	.5

[a] *I.L.O. Report to the Government of Sierra Leone, op. cit.*, Tables 2-9, pp. 35-38.

These data from the population census are given in Table 5. Although incomes in Freetown are not typical of those in the villages, these data give a general impression of the consumers of Sierra Leone.

GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT

As mentioned earlier, official estimates of the gross national product or national income of Sierra Leone are not available to date; however, estimates of gross product have been made for selected years as shown in Table 6. These vary widely as do the population estimates.

Table 6. — Estimated Gross Product and Per Capita Gross Product, Sierra Leone

Year	Gross product	Population	Per capita gross product
	(£ millions)	(millions)	(pounds)
1950	49.2	2.0	24.6[a]
1952	56.9	2.1	27.1[a]
1956	31.5	2.1	15.0[b]
1961	80–90	2.5	32–36[c]
1961	60–90	2.2	27–41[d]
1962	53.6	2.1	25.0[e]
1963	78.2	2.2	35.7[e]

[a] Estimates by D. E. Carney in *Government and Economy in British West Africa, 1961.*
[b] Derived from per capita estimate of £15 given in *Digest of Colonial Statistics No. 35, 1957.*
[c] Estimate by Dr. Chalak, United Nations.
[d] Derived by the staff of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development in "The Economy of Sierra Leone," 1964.
[e] *Selected Economic Data for the Less Developed Countries,* Statistical and Reports Division, Agency for International Development, May 1964.

It should be noted that in general the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) estimates are consistently lower than other estimates.

In view of the lack of sufficient compiled data as a basis for a reasonable determination of productivity or income trends, the economists preparing the transportation survey of Sierra Leone in 1963 estimated the gross product from 1950 to 1961 at a 1961 constant price level, as shown in Table 7. "Briefly stated, the method adopted for the estimates of gross product listed in Table 7 consists of the use of annual export values as the base for production of non-subsistence employment and annual prices of a model diet as the base for production value of subsistence workers. A factor of two was applied to annual export values as representative of the total product of all workers other than those who produce only for subsistence of their families. The annual value of a model diet for laborers was applied to that portion of

Table 7. — Estimated Gross Product, Sierra Leone[a,b]

Year	Total	Annual change[c]	Per capita gross product
	(£ thousands)	(percent)	(pounds)
1950	71,631	....	36.1
1951	75,237	5.0	37.1
1952	54,612	−27.4	26.3
1953	69,528	27.3	32.8
1954	70,239	1.0	32.4
1955	75,742	7.8	34.1
1956	83,562	10.3	36.8
1957	87,230	4.4	37.6
1958	99,418	14.0	41.9
1959	93,634	−5.8	38.6
1960	115,638	23.5	46.6
1961	111,954	−3.2	44.2
Average annual increase, 1950–1961:	4.15%		1.86%

[a] *Transportation Survey of Sierra Leone,* March 1963, Table 11.
[b] At 1961 constant price level.
[c] Data in this column were calculated by the author.

the total population which is estimated to depend solely upon subsistence production, with appropriate adjustment for the proportions of adults and children. The sum of these two elements of annual productive value, subsistence and non-subsistence, was taken as a plausible qualitative indicator of gross product and a slightly less reliable indicator of quantitative value.

"The estimates derived by this method are admittedly subject to the same uncertainties as any previous spot estimates with respect to absolute quantitative values. Since, however, this method is based upon uniform application of annual statistical data compiled by government sources, it is believed that from a qualitative standpoint it may serve as a more plausible indication of trends than can be obtained from some other estimates previously made."[1]

These estimates are useful not only for demonstrating growth trends over the 11-year period but also for showing the annual fluctuations which may be helpful in explaining fluctuations in imports of consumer goods. It will be noted that the 1961 GNP estimate in Table 7 (£111.9 million) is considerably higher than the IBRD estimate (£60–90 million) in Table 6, and 109 percent higher than the 1962 AID estimate (£53.6 million). However, the average annual rate of growth of GNP in Tables 7 and 8 (9.9 percent in current prices, 4.1 percent in constant prices) is not inconsistent with other economic indicators

[1] *Transportation Survey of Sierra Leone,* March 1963, Transportation Consultants, Inc., Washington 6, D.C., p. 17.

Table 8. — Comparative Summary Rates of Increase — Various Economic Indicators[a]

Item	Period covered	Percent average annual increase
Population	1950–1961	2.25
Labor force	1950–1961	2.25
Import values — at current price levels	1946–1961	15.17
Export values — at current price levels	1946–1961	17.41
Import values — at constant price levels	1946–1961	10.09
Export values — at constant price levels	1946–1961	12.25
Seaborne trade tonnage:		
Receipts	1946–1961	7.65
Shipments	1946–1961	6.74
Total	1946–1961	6.98
Motor vehicles licensed:		
Commercial	1950–1961	24.80
Private	1950–1961	19.21
Total	1950–1961	21.30
Motor fuel imports (gallons):		
Motor spirit	1947–1961	11.38
Diesel and gas oil	1947–1961	14.94
Total	1947–1961	13.40
Electricity generated (KWH)	1950–1961	18.60
Telephones in use	1953–1961	14.39
Mineral production (value)	1946–1961	19.52
Average weekly earnings for laborers: building and construction		
Current price levels	1950–1960	11.29
Constant price level	1950–1960	5.18
Annual government revenues — at current price levels	1946–1961	12.89
Annual government expenditures — at current price levels	1946–1961	14.48
Annual government revenues — at constant price levels	1946–1961	7.91
Annual government expenditures — at constant price levels	1946–1961	9.44
Gross product estimates of this study:		
Total — constant price	1950–1961	4.15
Per capita — constant price	1950–1961	1.86
Total — current price	1950–1961	9.89
Per capita — current price	1950–1961	7.48

[a] *Transportation Survey of Sierra Leone*, Table 12.

calculated by Transportation Consultants in Table 8. Nor are they inconsistent with the growth in post office savings accounts or bank deposits, shown in Appendix Tables 1 and 2.

Although traditional Africans are not noted for placing savings in post office accounts or in banks because of the fear that relatives will learn of them and wish to borrow them, the number of savings accounts open at the end of each year increased 5.2 percent from 1950 to 1962–63 and the accumulated balance showed an annual increase of 5.5 percent (although the balance per account showed little change) during this

Table 9. — Imports and Exports of Sierra Leone (at Annual Current Price Levels and With Conversions to 1961 Constant Price Level)[a,b]

Year	Annual current price levels		1961 constant price level	
	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports
	(£ thousands)			
1950	6,746	6,948	12,187	12,552
1951	8,207	10,045	11,075	13,555
1952	10,282	10,140	11,996	11,830
1953	11,096	11,929	13,081	14,063
1954	13,376	11,372	14,981	12,737
1955	17,115	10,220	19,761	11,800
1956	23,093	13,180	25,111	14,332
1957	28,250	18,346	28,001	18,185
1958	23,903	19,613	25,019	20,529
1959	23,520	19,469	24,167	20,004
1960	26,342	29,631	27,066	30,446
1961	32,539	29,368	32,539	29,368
1962	30,436	20,525	30,712	20,711
1963	29,836	28,944	29,866	28,973
Average annual increase, 1950–1963:	12.1%	11.6%	7.1%	6.6%

[a] *Transportation Survey of Sierra Leone*, Table 8 for 1950–1961 and *Quarterly Statistical Bulletin*, 1962–63.

[b] These are total and *not* retained imports and total and *not* domestic exports. Retained imports are total imports minus re-exports.

period (Appendix Table 1). Time and savings deposits in the principal banks of Sierra Leone showed an average annual increase of 17.6 percent from 1950 to 1963 (Appendix Table 2).

FOREIGN TRADE

The value of both imports and exports of Sierra Leone showed a steady growth pattern from 1950 to 1963, as shown in Table 9 in current and constant dollars. As noted earlier, the diamond boom starting in 1954 had a significant upward impact on incomes in Sierra Leone. In spite of widespread smuggling of diamonds for five years, Sierra Leone's reported domestic exports showed an average annual increase of 10.9 percent between 1950 and 1963 (Appendix Table 3) with significant increases in 1956–57 and in 1960. By 1960 diamond smuggling had been largely brought under control, and arrangements for licensing of African miners and for purchasing through the government's diamond buying office had become effective.

Similarly, reported imports retained in Sierra Leone increased 11.4 percent per year on the average between 1950 and 1963 with significant increases in 1955–56 and in 1961 (Table 10), the latter increase occurring as the country prepared for independence. Both imports and ex-

Table 10. — Visible Balance of Trade, Sierra Leone,[a] and Consumer Price Index, Freetown,[b] 1950–1963

Year	Retained imports	Domestic exports	Trade balance	Consumer price index
		(£ thousands)		(1961 = 100)
1950	6,458	6,661	203	55.4
1951	7,993	9,855	1,862	74.1
1952	10,042	9,900	−142	85.7
1953	10,867	11,701	834	84.8
1954	12,479	10,974	−1,505	89.3
1955	16,823	9,927	−6,896	86.6
1956	22,041	12,127	−9,914	92.0
1957	24,911	15,008	−9,903	97.4
1958	20,831	16,541	−4,290	93.8
1959	20,451	16,400	−4,051	93.8
1960	22,639	25,927	3,288	96.0
1961	28,333	25,162	−3,171	100.0
1962	26,561	16,643	−9,918	99.1
1963	26,436	25,445	−991	99.9

[a] *Quarterly Statistical Bulletin*, No. 3, September 1964 and Annual Trade Reports.
[b] *Transportation Survey of Sierra Leone, op. cit.*, Table 8 (1950–1956), and *Quarterly Statistical Bulletin*, No. 3, September 1964 (1957–1963).

ports were oriented toward the United Kingdom with 43 percent of imports coming from the U.K. and 75 percent of exports going to the U.K. in 1963.

The visible trade balance between exports and imports was unfavorable during almost the entire period (Table 10); from 1955 on, imports exceeded exports by substantial amounts in every year except one. "Some portion of these deficits may be explained by development expenditures, but it is reported by local sources that much of it is probably the result of illegal and unrecovered export of diamonds."[1] The amount of diamond smuggling is estimated at the bottom of Table 11, page 24.

Price Level Changes

In view of the fact that a pronounced visible trade deficit did not commence until 1955 (Table 10), it is difficult to explain the behavior of the consumer price index in Freetown between 1950 and 1957 (Appendix Tables 8 and 9). The all-item index almost doubled between 1950 and 1957 and fell thereafter until 1961. Of course, the overall index is heavily weighted by food prices, which doubled between 1950 and 1956, before the effect of the diamond boom was felt. From the end of 1957 the food price index fell, falling over 13 percentage points between 1957 and 1960.

[1] *Transportation Survey of Sierra Leone, op. cit.*, p. 16.

It is much easier to explain the increases in the rent index in Freetown. The rent index remained constant until 1956 and then began to increase markedly; much of this would no doubt be reflected in the movement of persons into Freetown seeking jobs, a movement which was accentuated as independence approached. The clothing index also jumped markedly upward between 1950 and 1952, decreased 21 percentage points between 1952 and 1954, and since then has remained stable. The index for alcoholic beverages and tobacco increased from 111.0 in 1955 to 135.8 in 1961.

Table 11. — Major Domestic Exports of Sierra Leone in Selected Years[a]

Exports	1950		1960		1963[b]	
	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%
Diamonds[c]	1,650	25	16,482	64	16,165	64
Iron ore	1,400	21	4,137	16	5,007	20
Chrome ore	94	1	147	1	0	0
Agricultural (total)	3,482	52	4,768	18	4,159	16
Palm kernels and oil	2,383	36	2,918	11	2,453	10
Cocoa beans	117	2	696	3	587	2
Coffee beans	39	1	628	2	653	3
Kola nuts	106	1	150	1	79	0
Piassava	273	4	273	1	271	1
Other (ginger and benniseed)	564	8	103	0	116	0
Total items listed	6,626	99	25,534	99	25,331	100
Total exports	6,661	100	25,927	100	25,445	100

[a] Annual Trade Reports and *Quarterly Statistical Bulletin*, No. 3, September 1964.
[b] The 1963 total includes approximately £5.3 million of 1962 production exported in the first quarter of 1963 (bank estimate).
[c] Diamond smuggling during the 1950's has been estimated at £10 million, £12 million, £14.5 million, £9.5 million, and £11 million respectively for the years 1954–1958. It is believed that illicit diamond sales declined rapidly after 1959.

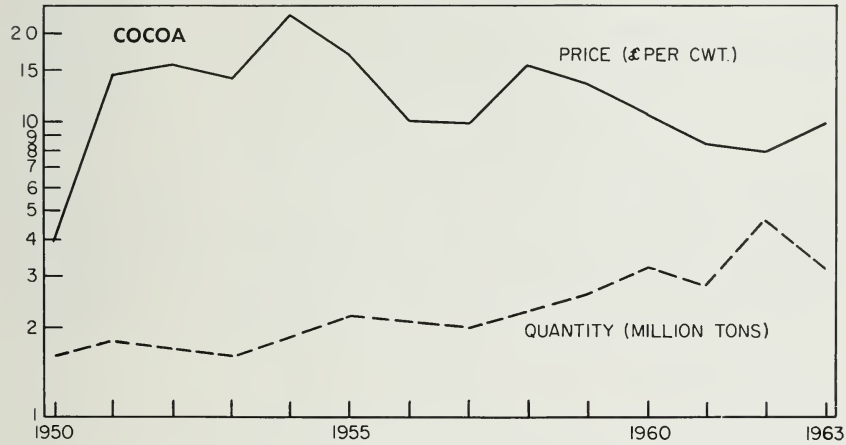
Exports

The values of major domestic exports of Sierra Leone for selected years are shown in Table 11.[1] Diamonds, which accounted for 25 percent of the total in 1950, accounted for 64 percent in 1963. Although the value of other minerals (chiefly iron ore) more than tripled during this period, their relative importance declined. Agricultural products, which accounted for 52 percent of total exports in 1950, accounted for only 16 percent in 1963.

The value of agricultural products exported from Sierra Leone from 1950 to 1963 increased 1.4 percent per year whereas the value of total domestic exports increased 10.9 percent, diamonds 19.2 percent, and other minerals 9.8 percent per year on the average (Appendix

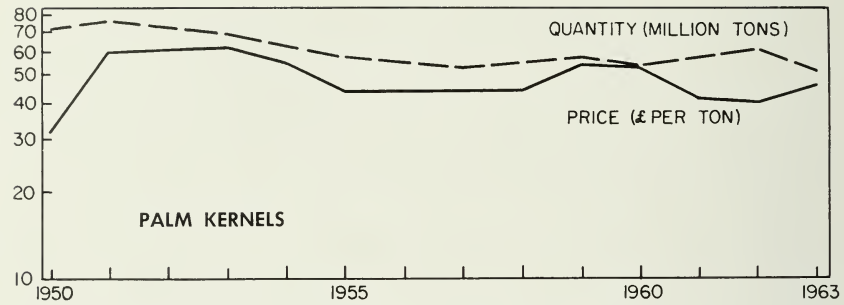
[1] Data for the period 1950–1963 are shown in Appendix Table 3.

Table 3). Unit prices of these principal exports and an index of unit prices (with 1961 being given a base of 100) are shown in Appendix Tables 4 and 5; quantities of the major commodities exported and an index of quantities exported from 1950 to 1963 are shown in Appendix Tables 6 and 7. Movements of prices and quantities of exports are shown graphically in Figures 5 through 8.

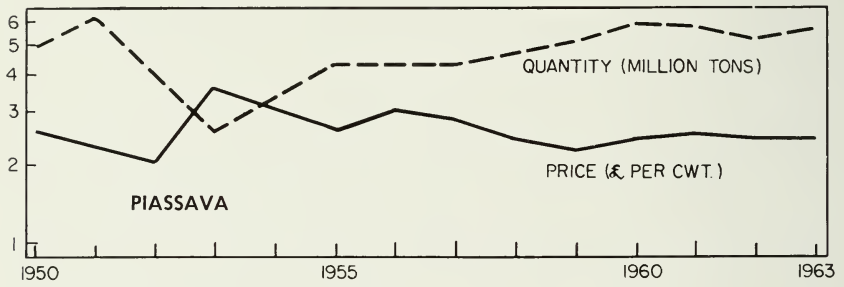


Movements of prices and quantities of cocoa exported from Sierra Leone, 1950-1963. (Fig. 5)

Movements of prices and quantities of coffee exported from Sierra Leone, 1950-1963. (Fig. 6)



Movements of prices and quantities of palm kernels exported from Sierra Leone, 1950-1963. (Fig. 7)



Movements of prices and quantities of piassava exported from Sierra Leone, 1950-1963. (Fig. 8)

In comparing the range in indexes of price and volume of Sierra Leone's export products shown below, it is noted that those products with wide price variation have also had the widest range in quantity exported and vice versa.

Product	*Price*	*Volume exported*
Cocoa	230	111
Coffee	237	96
Kola nuts	102	90
Palm kernels	72	39
Piassava	40	61
Diamonds	65	80
Iron ore	95	63

With the exception of three years, the value of Sierra Leone's agricultural exports fell each year from 1954 to 1963 (Appendix Table 3). In an effort to reverse this trend and increase foreign exchange earnings, agricultural exports should be encouraged. The government is increasing acreages of oil palms and considering other plantation crops including rubber. It is also encouraging further processing of oil kernels in Sierra Leone; this not only increases foreign exchange earnings

Various sized oil palm trees at the research station, Njala. (Fig. 9)

but also provides important livestock feed which would otherwise have to be imported. Increased plantings of feed grains would reduce imports and assist livestock and poultry enterprises.

It would appear that, with improved marketing practices, citrus fruits, pineapples, and bananas could also be exported to the European market, as these products are in demand in high-income countries. Trial shipments of mangoes, avocado pears, and pineapples have already been accepted by United Kingdom dealers.

Imports

The values of the major imports retained in Sierra Leone for selected years are shown in Table 12. The trade data have been reclassified so that consumer goods imports[1] can be separated from other types of imports. It is shown in Figure 10 that the growth in value of total consumer goods remained almost parallel to that of total retained imports from 1950 to 1960 and then decreased from 71 percent of total retained imports in 1960 to 59 percent in 1963. Imported foods increased from 10 percent of total retained imports in 1950 to 19 percent in 1963. Imports of beverages and tobacco fell from 10 to 5 percent during this period, as local production began in Sierra Leone. Although there had

[1] Classifications similar to those employed in family expenditure studies have been used to make comparisons possible. For details, see appendix.

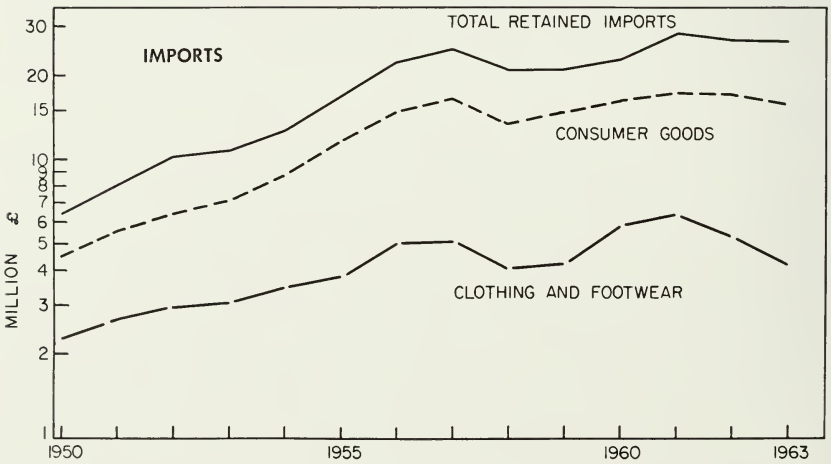
Table 12. — Major Imports Retained in Sierra Leone in Selected Years[a]

Imports	1950		1960		1963	
	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%
Total consumer goods	4,518	70	16,011	71	15,468	59
Food	667	10	4,369	20	4,971	19
Beverages and tobacco	604	10	1,641	7	1,333	5
Clothing and footwear	2,290	35	5,719	25	4,233	16
Other consumer goods	957	15	4,282	19	4,931	19
Machinery and transportation equipment	517	8	3,209	14	5,319	20
Other	1,423	22	3,419	15	5,649	21
Total retained imports	6,458	100	22,639	100	26,436	100

[a] Annual Trade Reports, and *Quarterly Statistical Bulletin*, No. 3, September 1964.

been little local manufacture of textiles by 1963, textile and footwear imports fell from 35 percent of the total to 16 percent between 1950 and 1963 (Figure 10).

As would be expected in a developing economy, imports of machinery and equipment (other than passenger cars, motorcycles, and bicycles, which are classified as consumer goods) increased from 8 to 20 percent during this period. The proportion of other consumer goods imports also increased; this category includes household goods, automobiles, motorcycles, bicycles, medicines, reading and recreation equipment, etc. Items included in "other" are chemicals, mineral fuels, building materials, and so forth.



Imports of clothing and footwear, total consumer goods, and total retained imports, Sierra Leone, 1950-1963. (Fig. 10)

Table 13. — Major Retained Imports of Food, Sierra Leone, 1950–1963[a]

Year	Sugar		Flour (wheaten)		Dairy products		Meat products		Total	
	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%
1950	124	19	141	21	97	15	32	5	667	100
1951	135	15	169	19	105	12	31	3	904	100
1952	192	20	167	17	172	18	45	5	977	100
1953	199	16	263	21	153	12	56	4	1,249	100
1954	255	14	309[b]	17	170	10	78	4	1,780	100
1955	462	15	407	13	203	7	98	3	3,071	100
1956	514	12	448	11	293	7	148	4	4,139	100
1957	673	15	489	11	266	6	222	5	4,434	100
1958	650	18	458	12	308	8	165	5	3,650	100
1959	738	15	594	12	304	6	170	3	4,909	100
1960	782	18	512	12	338	8	153	4	4,369	100
1961	934	25	546	15	364	10	234	6	3,667	100
1962	938	18	746	15	408	8	244	5	5,055	100
1963	1,128	23	676	14	452	9	230	5	4,971	100
Average annual increase, 1950–1963:	18.5%		12.8%		12.6%		16.4%		16.7%	

[a] Annual Trade Reports.
[b] Classifications changed in 1954 (046-010 and 047-xx0 included); 1950–1953, classification 20.

FOOD

As noted in Table 12 and Figure 10, although the proportion of total consumer good imports in total retained imports decreased slightly from 1950 to 1963, the proportion of food imports increased. Food imports increased at an average annual rate of 16.7 percent during the period, while total consumer goods and total retained imports increased at 9.9 and 11.4 percent respectively.

In examining the components of total food imports, sugar was consistently one of the most important during this period, accounting for an average of 17 percent of total food imports from 1950 to 1963 (Table 13). Some attention has been given to possible local production of sugar in Sierra Leone and a pilot project is under way. If the local market is of sufficient size to allow efficient operation of sugar production and refining, considerable savings of foreign exchange would result.

The second most significant food import was wheaten flour,[1] which accounted for approximately 16 percent of total food imports during

[1] In the 1950–1953 trade data this is category 20 — flour and meal wheaten; from 1954 forward categories 046-010 (meal and flour of wheat) and 047-xx0 (meal and flour of corn and other cereals) are included. Unmilled cereals and rice are not included in this group. In 1954, the trade classifications were changed to follow the U.N. International Trade Classifications.

this period. Dairy products accounted for approximately 10 percent and meat products (excluding fish), imported live or slaughtered, accounted for less than 5 percent.

Of the remaining imports, bakery products, tomato puree and paste, onions and garlic, and fish and fish products were the most important, with imports in excess of £100,000 annually. A plan for a tomato paste and puree factory has been approved. Onions and other fresh vegetables can be grown successfully in Sierra Leone with good cultural practices, and better marketing and transportation facilities could reduce this import item significantly if desired. It should be possible to produce many of the bakery products locally. One would expect that local canning and freezing facilities could reduce imports of fish and fish products also.

Rice is the staple food of Sierra Leone. During some years between 1950 and 1963 rice was exported; during others, domestic production had to be supplemented by imports. In recent years the government has been carrying out an experiment of subsidized mechanical plowing and in some instances of rice harvesting in the Bolilands where paddy rice had not previously been grown commercially. Acres plowed increased from 5,923 in 1959 to 14,857 in 1963.

The value of rice imported and exported for selected years between 1950 and 1963 is shown in Table 14 together with the net cost or profit to the government. Significant amounts of rice have been imported since 1955 at a substantial cost to the government, which is providing rice price support.

Table 14. — Value of Imports and Exports of Rice and Net Cost (or Profit) to the Government of Sierra Leone for Selected Years, 1950–1963[a]

	1950	1951	1953	1955	1957	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
						(£ thousands)				
Rice exports	3	3	43	5	1	1	1	20	12	0
Rice imports	2	37	0	968	1,429	1,992	1,237	210	1,359	941
Annual net cost (or profit) of government rice operations[b]	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)	258	257	107	(c)	(c)

[a] Departments of Trade and Industry and Customs and Excise.
[b] The 1958–59 rice account was made up for two years and showed a net profit of £65,375.
[c] Not available.

Currently the producer price of rice is supported at a level higher than world prices; the retail price is set between producer and world prices. Also there has been substantial dissatisfaction with government handling of imported rice and with lack of facilities for milling domestic rice. The necessity of importing significant quantities of rice has been one of the reasons that mechanized plowing and other schemes to try to increase domestic production have been implemented.

Most of the total food supply is produced locally; Dixon-Fyle estimates that approximately 6 percent of total food consumed was imported from 1949 to 1953 and 8 to 10 percent from 1953 to 1957.[1] The daily caloric intake per capita is estimated at between 2,200[2] and 2,410[3] for recent years; at this level the per capita caloric intake is adequate, but the diet could be improved with increased consumption of protein.

A study of workers' households in Freetown showed that 65 percent of total family expenditures was allocated to food in 1951 compared with 58 percent in 1961.[4] In 1961, 16 percent of total expenditures was allocated to purchases of rice, bread, and other grain products and 14 percent to fish.

BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO

The Aureol Tobacco Company, a subsidiary of the British-American Tobacco Company, began the manufacture of cigarettes in Sierra Leone in 1960 using imported tobacco. In 1961 local production of tobacco began in the Makeni and Kabala areas; 1,155 pounds of tobacco was produced by 61 farmers. In 1962 production rose to 29,652 pounds grown by 661 farmers and in 1963 to 218,229 pounds produced by 3,930 farmers. Each farmer has been limited to planting approximately one-sixth of an acre[5] of tobacco. One-hundred Africans have been trained to supervise the planting, harvesting, curing, and grading of the tobacco, which is then purchased by the company. The company gives the farmers free seedlings and subsidizes the cost of fertilizers; the curing is done by the farmers, often in their houses, and grading is done by the farmers and checked by the company agents.

[1] S. Randolph Dixon-Fyle, "The Use of Foreign Trade Statistics in Industrial Development Programming (with Special Reference to Sierra Leone)," an unpublish diploma thesis, p. 15.

[2] Statistical and Reports Division, AID, 1964, p. 5.

[3] *The World Food Budget 1970,* Foreign Agricultural Economic Report No. 19, U.S.D.A., Economic Research Service, Foreign Regional Analysis Division, p. 101.

[4] *I.L.O. Report, op. cit.,* p. 63.

[5] Acreage was limited so that if the project failed, no one farmer would have a total harvest failure; it is hoped that in the next few years high-quality producers will be encouraged to continue and less-efficient producers will drop out.

Income from tobacco is estimated to vary between £4 and £34 per farm per year with an average of £24 per year; this is a significant supplement to the incomes of subsistence farmers.

Sierra Leone produced some soft drinks before independence; production has been expanded since that time.

The Wellington Distilleries Ltd., which is owned jointly by the Sierra Leone government and British interests, and the Sierra Leone Brewery (British and Dutch financed) commenced production in 1962 and 1963 respectively. As a result of local production, the value of imports of alcoholic beverages began to decline in 1962 (Table 15).

Table 15. — Imports of Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco, Clothing and Footwear Retained in Sierra Leone, 1950–1963[a]

Year	Alcoholic beverages		Tobacco		Clothing and footwear		Total retained imports
	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%	£ thousands
1950	242	4	362	6	2,290	35	6,458
1951	369	5	358	4	2,662	33	7,993
1952	597	6	397	4	2,930	29	10,042
1953	664	6	432	4	3,053	28	10,867
1954	805	6	491	4	3,456	28	12,479
1955	1,077	6	558	3	3,777	22	16,823
1956	1,258	6	703	3	4,838	22	22,041
1957	1,570	6	707	3	5,065	20	24,911
1958	1,391	7	685	3	4,044	19	20,831
1959	1,152	6	536	3	4,199	20	20,451
1960	1,027	4	614	3	5,719	25	22,639
1961	1,088	4	485	2	6,409	23	28,333
1962	896	3	742	3	5,298	20	26,561
1963	747	3	586	2	4,233	16	26,436
Average annual increase:	9.1%		3.8%		4.8%		11.4%

[a] Annual Trade Reports. For classifications included in clothing and footwear, see appendix.

Imports of alcoholic beverages rose from 4 to 7 percent of total retained imports from 1950 to 1958 but fell to 3 percent in 1963. Beer was by far the largest component of alcoholic beverage imports followed by wines, whisky, brandy, and gin. A comparison of major types of alcoholic beverages imported in 1957 and 1963 is shown in Table 16. Local production of gin, whisky, and beer was most significant in reducing imports.

Imports of tobacco products were 6 percent of total imports in 1950; these decreased to 3 percent during the late fifties and to 2 percent in

Table 16. — Major Components of Alcoholic Beverage Imports Retained in Sierra Leone for Selected Years[a]

Components	1957		1963	
	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%
Beer	1,113	71	533	71
Wine, still	284	18	66	9
Whisky	53	4	34	4
Gin	49	3	6	1
Brandy	34	2	57	8
Other	37	2	51	7
Total	1,570	100	747	100

[a] Annual Trade Reports.

1963. Foreign cigarette tobacco will continue to be imported for use in blending, but the proportion of foreign content in the cigarettes is expected to decline over time.

The value of alcoholic beverage imports rose from 5 to 10 percent of total consumer goods imports from 1950 to 1957–58 and then dropped to 5 percent in 1963 (Table 17). Tobacco imports fell steadily from 8 percent of total consumer goods imports in 1950 to 4 percent in 1963.

It is estimated that 60 percent of the cigarettes sold in Sierra Leone are sold one at a time, in contrast to 90 percent in Nigeria. Sierra

Table 17. — Imports of Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco, Clothing and Footwear as a Percentage of Total Consumer Goods Imports Retained in Sierra Leone, 1950–1963[a]

Year	Alcoholic beverages (percent)	Tobacco (percent)	Clothing and footwear (percent)	Total consumer goods imports (£ thousands)
1950	5	8	51	4,518
1951	7	6	48	5,515
1952	9	6	46	6,380
1953	9	6	43	7,090
1954	9	6	39	8,783
1955	9	5	33	11,466
1956	9	5	33	14,621
1957	10	4	31	16,278
1958	10	5	30	13,543
1959	8	4	28	14,722
1960	6	4	36	16,011
1961	6	3	37	17,267
1962	5	4	31	17,098
1963	5	4	27	15,468
Average annual increase:				9.9%

[a] Table 15.

Table 18. — Major Components of Clothing and Footwear Imports for Selected Years, Sierra Leone[a]

Components	1950		1960		1963	
	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%
Cotton fabrics	1,577	69	3,132	55	2,312	55
Cotton fents	105	4	85	1	36	1
Woolen and worsted fabrics	40	2	85	1	15	0
Synthetic fabrics	164[b]	7	581	10	276	7
Synthetic fents	0	0	14	0	6	0
Cotton sewing thread	17	1	52	1	25	1
Footwear	103	4	457	8	506	12
Umbrellas	16	1	72	1	56	1
Other manufactured clothing	223	10	1,077	19	816	19
Other	45	2	164	4	185	4
Total	2,290	100	5,719	100	4,233	100

[a] Annual Trade Reports.
[b] In 1950, silk or artificial silk.

Leonians are estimated to consume 20 cigarettes per person per month compared with 15 in Ghana and 10 in Nigeria.[1]

Alcoholic beverages were estimated to account for 1.8 percent of total family expenditures of Freetown households surveyed in 1951 and 1.3 percent in 1961; cigarettes and tobacco accounted for 3.2 percent of similar family expenditures in 1951 and 1.9 percent in 1961.[2]

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

The clothing and footwear category of retained imports includes all imports of textiles, clothing, footwear, jewelry, umbrellas, and materials for the manufacture or making of same.[3] As noted earlier in Table 12, imports of clothing and footwear declined from 35 percent of total retained imports in 1950 to 25 percent in 1960 and 16 percent in 1963. Annual clothing and footwear imports from 1950 to 1963 are shown in Table 15; annual imports as a percentage of total consumer goods imports are shown in Table 17. Clothing and footwear imports accounted for 51 percent of total consumer goods imports in 1950; these declined steadily to 28 percent in 1959, jumped to 37 percent in 1961, and fell to 27 percent in 1963.

Local production of plastic sandals, wearing apparel, and umbrellas commenced between 1964 and 1966. Production of leather and rubber

[1] Source of estimates: Aureol Tobacco Company research department staff.
[2] *I.L.O. Report, op. cit.*, p. 63. The 1951 sample included families with higher incomes than the 1961 sample.
[3] Actual trade report classifications included are shown in the appendix.

Table 19. — Imports of Household Goods, Passenger Automobiles, and Other Consumer Transportation Retained in Sierra Leone, 1950–1963, and as a Percentage of Total Imports and Total Consumer Goods Imports[a]

Year	Household goods		Transportation		Total retained imports	Percent total consumer goods imports	
	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	Household goods	Transportation
1950	528	8	123	2	6,458	12	3
1951	632	8	156	2	7,993	11	3
1952	725	7	203	2	10,042	11	3
1953	819	8	209	2	10,867	12	3
1954	1,119	9	306	2	12,479	13	3
1955	1,441	9	397	2	16,823	13	3
1956	1,751	8	479	2	22,041	12	3
1957	1,993	8	571	2	24,911	12	4
1958	1,627	8	534	2	20,831	12	4
1959	1,805	9	479	2	20,451	12	3
1960	2,017	9	498	2	22,639	12	3
1961	2,326	8	866	3	28,333	13	5
1962	2,336	9	676	3	26,561	14	4
1963	1,961	7	729	3	26,436	13	5
Average annual increase:	10.6%		14.7%		11.4%		

[a] Annual Trade Reports. For categories included see appendix.

footwear is scheduled to begin later in 1966. Thongs are made locally of used automobile tires; this is a sidewalk-type industry.

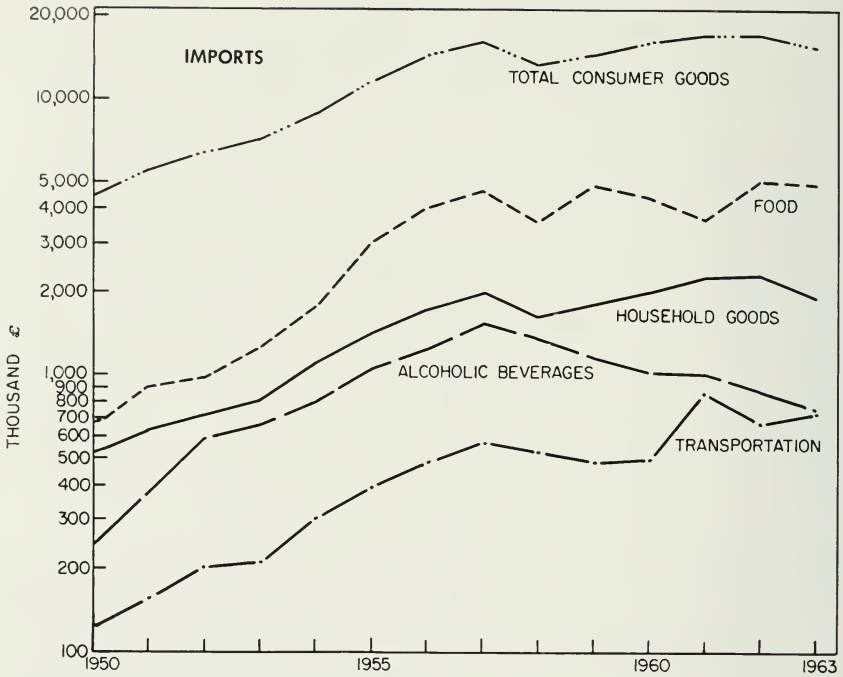
Major components of clothing and footwear imports for selected years are shown in Table 18. Cotton fabrics and fents (seconds) accounted for 56 percent of clothing and footwear imports in 1963; synthetic fabrics, 7 percent; footwear, 12 percent; umbrellas, 1 percent; and other manufactured clothing, 19 percent. While the proportion in total clothing imports of cotton and woolen fabrics decreased from 1950 to 1963 and the proportion of synthetic fabrics and cotton sewing thread remained fairly constant, the proportion of manufactured clothing and footwear increased during this period.

Data from the consumer expenditure studies indicate that the Freetown families sampled allocated 6.5 percent of total family living expenses to clothing and footwear in 1951 and 7.4 percent in 1961.[1]

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

The household goods category includes all the items needed to clean, operate, and furnish a home including soaps, cleansers and detergents,

[1] *I.L.O. Report, op. cit.*, p. 63.



Food, household goods, alcholic beverages, transportation (passenger cars and motorcycles and parts), and total consumer goods imports retained in Sierra Leone, 1950-1963. (Fig. 11)

blankets, bedding, towels, household utensils, cutlery, luggage, watches, consumer durables and parts, and furniture.[1]

Imports of household goods are shown in Table 19 together with the importance of household goods imports in total retained imports and in total consumer goods imports from 1950 to 1963.

Imports of household goods increased during this period at about the same rate (10.6 percent) as total retained imports (11.4 percent) and amounted to approximately 8 percent of total retained imports during this period (Figure 11). Imports of household goods accounted for 11 to 14 percent of total consumer goods imports during this period.

Although the household goods component is made up of over 50 categories listed in the *Trade Reports,* the major items imported are shown in Table 20. Of the components listed, soap and detergents accounted for the largest proportion of imports in 1963 (16 percent), with household utensils and cutlery accounting for 14 percent; lamp oil, 10 percent; wood and metal furniture, 9 percent; travel goods, 6 percent; blankets, towels, and bed linens, 6 percent; matches, 4 percent;

[1] For details of classifications included, see appendix.

Table 20. — Major Components of Household Goods Imports Retained in Sierra Leone in Selected Years, 1950–1963[a]

Components	1950		1960		1963	
	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%
Sewing machines and parts	29	5	27	1	18	1
Refrigerators and parts	0	0	102	5	78	4
Furniture (wood and metal)	5	1	127	6	174	9
Mattresses	0	0	38	2	42	2
Travel goods	20	4	191	10	121	6
Blankets, towels, bed linens	78	15	171	8	124	6
Household utensils and cutlery	158	30	452	23	273	14
Matches	48	9	60	3	81	4
Soaps and detergents	44	8	252	12	313	16
Lamp oil	63	12	165	8	199	10
Other	83	16	432	22	538	28
Total	528	100	2,017	100	1,961	100

[a] Annual Trade Reports.

and refrigerators and parts, 4 percent. With the abundance of palm oil in Sierra Leone, one would expect that considerable foreign exchange could be conserved if more soaps and lamp oil were made locally (as palm oil is burned for illuminating purposes, possibly greater use could be made of it). Also it would appear that local production of matches and mattresses would not be difficult. Some very attractive wood furniture is already being manufactured in Sierra Leone.

In 1951 households sampled in Freetown allocated 7.5 percent of total expenditures to firewood, charcoal, kerosene, matches, and electricity; in 1961 7.6 percent of the budget was so allocated. Expenditures for durable goods accounted for 2 percent of the total and toilet goods and washing materials another 2 percent in 1951; in 1961 these categories accounted for 2.3 and 2.8 percent of total expenditures of the Freetown families sampled.[1] Thus 11.5 and 12.7 percent of total living expenses of Freetown households sampled was allocated to purchases of household goods in 1951 and 1961 respectively. Firewood and electricity are not imported and therefore are not included in totals.

TRANSPORTATION

Imports of transportation equipment included in consumer expenditures are primarily passenger cars and motorcycles and their parts, tires, and tubes. Bicycles are included with recreation equipment. The transportation category is one in which it is difficult to separate consumer and capital uses especially in developing countries when many

[1] *I.L.O. Report, op. cit.*, p. 63.

passenger cars are imported for both personal and business use. All of the passenger cars, motorcycles, and bicycles were allocated to personal use; all of the trucks, dual-purpose vehicles, busses, and other types of transport equipment were designated as capital equipment.

Imports of consumer transportation goods retained in Sierra Leone from 1950 to 1963 are shown in Table 19; these types of imports varied between 2 and 3 percent of total retained imports during this period; they accounted for 3 to 5 percent of total consumer goods imports.

Major items included in transportation equipment imports retained in Sierra Leone for selected years are shown in Table 21. Passenger automobiles accounted for 78 percent of total transportation equipment imported for consumer use in 1963; motorcycles, 2 percent; and tires, tubes, and parts, 20 percent.

Table 21. — Major Components of Transportation Imports Retained in Sierra Leone for Selected Years[a]

Components	1950		1960		1963	
	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%
Passenger autos	101	82	394	79	566	78
Motorcycles	3	2	20	4	11	2
Tires, tubes, and parts	19	16	84	17	152	20
Total	123	100	498	100	729	100

[a] Annual Trade Reports.

The transportation consultants found that the number of private motor vehicles licensed increased at an annual rate of 19 percent from 1950 to 1961 (Table 8); this is the highest growth rate of any item listed in the table except for the growth in commercial vehicle licenses and mineral production.

Among the Freetown families surveyed in 1961, only 2 percent of total family expenditures was allocated to transportation expenses; however, the families included in the sample were wage-earner families with no earner receiving more than £20 per month ($56).

RECREATION AND READING

Radios, gramaphones, records, musical instruments, bicycles and their parts, cinema films (for theater use), cameras, projectors, sporting and hunting equipment, toys and games, newspapers and books and other reading materials, stones and slates, and art supplies are examples of items included in this category of imports. Imports of recreation and reading materials and the share of these in total retained

Table 22. — Imports of Reading and Recreation Equipment and Share in Total Retained Imports and Total Consumer Imports, Sierra Leone, 1950–1963[a]

Year	Recreation and reading equipment	Percent total imports	Percent total consumer imports
	£ thousands		
1950	66	1	1
1951	92	1	2
1952	143	1	2
1953	151	1	2
1954	232	2	3
1955	357	2	3
1956	474	2	3
1957	841	3	5
1958	475	2	4
1959	518	2	4
1960	565	2	4
1961	824	3	5
1962	661	2	4
1963	669	2	4
Average annual increase:	19.5%		

[a] Annual Trade Reports. For categories included, see appendix.

imports and in total consumer goods imports from 1950 to 1963 are shown in Table 22.

Imports of recreation and reading materials showed a steady growth of 19.5 percent per annum during this period with significant spurts in 1957 and 1961. These imports varied from 1 to 3 percent of total retained imports in Sierra Leone during this period and from 1 to 5 percent of total consumer goods imports.

Major components of recreation and reading items imported for selected years are shown in Table 23. One will note that imports of

Table 23. — Major Components of Recreation and Reading Items Imported Into Sierra Leone for Selected Years[a]

Components	1950		1960		1963	
	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%
Radios and parts	12	18	136	24	237	35
Bicycles and parts	12	18	56	10	30	5
Photographic equipment	6	9	58	10	88	13
Books, pamphlets, and newspapers	6	9	114	20	175	26
Other	30	46	201	36	139	21
Total	66	100	565	100	669	100

[a] Annual Trade Reports.

bicycles and parts declined in importance from 1950 to 1963; radios and parts increased significantly as did photographic equipment and books, pamphlets, and newspapers.

MEDICAL AND PERSONAL CARE

Medicines, drugs, vaccines, ointments, all types of medical and dental equipment, dentifrices, toilet articles, beautician supplies, and perfumes are examples of items included in medical and personal care imports, which are shown in Table 24 along with their significance in total retained and total consumer goods imports.

Table 24. — Imports of Medical and Personal Care Items and Other Consumer Goods and Shares of These in Total Retained Imports and Consumer Goods Imports, Sierra Leone, 1950–1963[a]

Year	Medical and personal care items		Other consumer goods		Percent total consumer goods	
	£ thousands	% total	£ thousands	% total	Medical and personal care	Other
1950	133	2	107	2	3	2
1951	185	2	157	2	3	3
1952	203	2	205	2	3	3
1953	243	2	270	2	3	4
1954	283	2	311	2	3	4
1955	316	2	472	3	3	4
1956	373	2	606	3	3	4
1957	466	2	631	3	3	4
1958	436	2	701	3	3	5
1959	444	2	680	3	3	5
1960	517	2	685	3	3	4
1961	808	3	794	3	5	4
1962	670	2	764	3	4	4
1963	785	3	787	3	5	5
Average annual increase:	14.6%		16.6%			

[a] Annual Trade Reports. For categories included see appendix.

Medical and personal care imports increased from 2 to 3 percent of total retained imports and from 3 to 5 percent of total consumer goods imports of Sierra Leone between 1950 and 1963. Medical and personal care imports increased at an average annual rate of 14.6 percent during this period, while GNP increased at 10 percent in current prices (the latter from 1950 to 1961).

Major components of medical and personal care imports for selected years are shown in Table 25. Medical supplies such as vitamins, drugs, ointments, and bandages accounted for 62 percent of the total in 1963;

Table 25. — Major Components of Medical and Personal Care and Other Consumer Goods Imports Into Sierra Leone for Selected Years[a]

Components	1950		1960		1963	
	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%	£ thousands	%
Medical and Personal Care						
Vitamins, penicillin, drugs, ointments, etc.	83	62	376	73	491	62
Medical instruments	10	8	13	2	61	8
Toilet articles including perfumes	40	30	123	24	229	29
Other	0	0	5	1	4	1
Total	133	100	517	100	785	100
Other Consumer Goods						
Scientific instruments	0	0	47	7	56	7
Printed matter[b]	0	0	28	4	83	11
Manufactured articles[b]	107	100	228	33	309	39
Other	0	0	382	56	339	43
Total	107	100	685	100	787	100

[a] Annual Trade Reports.
[b] Not elsewhere specified.

medical instruments, 8 percent; and toilet articles (such as perfume, talcum powder, dentifrices), 29 percent. These proportions of major medical and personal care imports did not change significantly from 1950 on.

OTHER CONSUMER GOODS

Imports of other consumer goods such as manufactured articles,[1] printed matter,[1] postal packages,[1] personal effects, and scientific instruments for 1950 to 1963 are shown in Table 24 together with their share in total retained imports and total consumer goods imports during this period. Imports of other consumer goods accounted for 2 percent of total retained imports in 1950 and grew to 3 percent by 1963; these commodities accounted for 2 to 5 percent of total consumer goods imports during this period.

Major components of this category are shown in Table 25. Scientific instruments accounted for 7 percent; printed matter,[1] 11 percent; manufactured articles,[1] 39 percent; and other items, 43 percent in 1963.

SUMMARY REGARDING IMPORTS OF CONSUMER GOODS

From data presented, it is possible to compare the rates of increase at which categories of consumer goods were imported between 1950 and 1963 with the growth of gross national product, total imports, and

[1] Not elsewhere specified.

total exports during this period (and with other indicators of economic growth which are shown in Table 8). A summary of these comparisons is given in Table 26.

Table 26.—Average Annual Rates of Imports of Consumer Goods Retained in Sierra Leone, 1950–1963, Compared With Growth of Total Retained Imports, Domestic Exports, and Gross National Product (in current prices)[a]

Components	Average annual growth rate (percent)	Components	Average annual growth rate (percent)
Total food	16.7	Recreation and reading	19.5
Sugar	18.5	Medical and personal care	14.6
Flour (wheat and corn, excluding rice)	12.8	Other consumer goods	16.6
Dairy products	12.6	Total consumer goods	9.9
Meat products	16.4	Total retained imports	11.4
Alcoholic beverages	9.1	Total domestic exports	10.9
Tobacco	3.8	Agricultural products	1.4
Clothing and footwear	4.8	Diamonds	19.2
Household goods	10.6	Other minerals	9.8
Transportation	14.7	Gross national product (1950–1961)	9.9

[a] Tables 13, 15, 17, 19, 22, and 24.

From the data in Table 26 it is evident that imports of food, transportation (automobiles, motorcycles, and their parts), reading and recreation items, medical and personal care, and other consumer goods increased at a higher average annual rate from 1950 to 1963 than estimates of GNP, total consumer goods, total retained imports, or total domestic exports; imports of household goods and alcoholic beverages increased at about the same average annual rate as GNP and total consumer goods; and tobacco and clothing and footwear imports increased at a much slower rate during this period. Local production of soft drinks, alcoholic beverages, and tobacco, and more recently of footwear, slowed down the rate at which these goods were imported.

It would appear that feasibility studies, some of which are in progress, could determine whether local production of sugar, bakery products, onions, and fresh vegetables, and increased production or better marketing of rice, fish, and meat products would be economical and desirable from the standpoint of general economic development. Local manufacture of umbrellas, garments and knitwear, plastic footwear, shoes, and some textiles has either commenced in Sierra Leone

or will soon begin; these items should help reduce clothing and footwear imports. Similarly local manufacture of furniture is developing; soap, mattresses, matches, pots and pans, and cutlery also could be considered. Persons familiar with the economies of the other countries considering a free trade area with Sierra Leone (Guinea, Liberia, and the Ivory Coast) could better recommend which industries have been or could be located in these countries rather than in Sierra Leone if the free trade area develops.

It appears also that present government policy, although not attaining the rapid rate of development desired, has accomplished a considerable amount since independence. This policy is summarized briefly in the following section.

GOVERNMENT POLICY REGARDING NEW INDUSTRY

The Development Act, passed in 1960, seeks to attract foreign investment in industries, which will make significant contributions to the development of the country, through tax holiday provisions.[1] As a further inducement to investors the government has set aside and developed an industrial estate of 114 acres at Wellington, 8 miles from the center of Freetown. Facilities for new industries are provided at nominal rates.

As local production of cigarettes, alcoholic beverages, and other consumer goods has commenced, import duties have been raised. For example, in 1963, when the Star Brewery began production, import duties on beer were increased 3 shillings per gallon, which doubled the price differential between local and imported lager-type beers to 6 pence a bottle. Also in 1963, duties on sugar were increased in an effort to reduce production of local illegal liquor (omole), and the new distillery will produce an inexpensive form of purified omole, as well as other spirits. Duties on soft drinks were also increased in 1963.

In 1964, import duties on some commodities such as beer, wooden furniture, petrol and oil, paints, and cement were increased in order to increase revenue and to protect domestic industries. The duty on manufactured tobacco had to be sharply reduced because of smuggling from neighboring territories.

Examples of import duties on consumer goods in 1961 and 1963[2] are given in Table 27.

[1] For a discussion of the advantages, disadvantages, and alternatives to this type of taxation, see John F. Due, *Taxation and Economic Development in Tropical Africa,* The MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1963, pp. 151-155.

[2] Duties have increased since 1963.

Table 27. — Import Duties On Consumer Goods, Sierra Leone, 1961 and 1963[a]

Goods	Unit	1961						1963					
		Preferential tariff			General tariff			Preferential tariff			General tariff		
		£	s[b]	d[c]	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d
Aerated and mineral waters	imperial gallon	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	0
Apparel:													
cardigans, jerseys, shirts	each	0	1 or 20%[d]	0	0	1 or 27½%[d]	6	0	1 or 25%[d]	6	0	2 or 32½%[d]	0
singlets and undervests, etc.	each	0	0 or 20%[d]	4	0	0 or 27½%[d]	6	0	0 or 25%[d]	6	0	0 or 32½%[d]	9
Beer, ale, stout, porter	imperial gallon	0	4	9	0	6	6	0	10	9	0	12	6
Bicycles and tricycles	value		5%			7½%			5%			7½%	
Candles and night lights	100 pounds	0	10	0	0	15	0	0	10	0	0	15	0
Cigarettes, manufactured	pound	1	10	0	1	14	0	1	10	0	1	14	0
Eggs, fresh	dozen	not available			not available			0	1	6	0	1	6
Footwear, plastic sandals	pair	not available			not available			0	1 or 25%[d]	6	0	2 or 32½%[d]	0
Hollow-ware, domestic	value		10%			12½%			12½%			15%	
Matches	gross of boxes	0	7	6	0	8	6	0	7	6	0	8	6
Motor cars	value		7½%			17½%			10%			20%	
Musical instruments, except radios	value		30%			40%			30%			40%	
Perfumery, cosmetics, and other toilet articles	value		50%			60%			50%			60%	
Piece goods:													
cotton, colored, dyed or printed	square yard	0	0	4	0	0	5½	0	0	6	0	0	8
cotton fents	pound	0	1	0	0	1	4	0	1	6	0	2	0
synthetics (excluding fents)	value	0	25% or 0	4[e]	0	33⅓% or 0	6[e]	0	25% or 0	6[e]	0	33⅓% or 0	8[e]
wool	value		20%			27½%			20%			27½%	
Radios, excluding batteries	value		10%			12½%			15%			17½%	
Sewing machines	value		10%			15%			10%			15%	
Spirits, whisky, brandy, gin	gallon	4	18	0	5	0	6	7	3	0	7	5	6
Others unless exempted	value		25%			33⅓%			25%			33½%	

[a] Annual Trade Reports.
[b] Shillings.
[c] Pence.
[d] Ad valorem, whichever is higher.
[e] Per square yard, whichever is higher.

It is evident from Table 27 that significant tariff increases on consumer goods occurred after 1961 and have continued since that time. Also, most consumer goods bear a fairly high import duty[1] from which a substantial portion of the government revenues is raised (see Table 1). As local production increases, revenue from these sources will fall and, if given revenues are to be maintained or increased, alternative taxes will have to be levied. It is not difficult to levy excises on alcoholic beverages and tobacco to replace the import duties; it is more difficult to levy taxes on other products, many of which doubtless will be produced on a small scale. However, a general manufacturers' or wholesale sales tax could be levied; this would not be too difficult to collect and is a type of tax which has been used successfully in other countries.

The incidence of the present import levies on consumption goods among different income groups in Sierra Leone is, of course, difficult to estimate, and would vary considerably from item to item. There is little doubt that most consumer durables (except sewing machines which are used in local dressmaking and tailoring), passenger automobiles, linoleum, carpets, plate and sheet glass, furniture and fixtures, radios, musical instruments, photographic equipment, sporting equipment, and many of the foods imported[2] are consumed primarily by middle and upper income groups in the population; rates of duty levied, therefore, should be considered in terms of the general level of taxation on these income groups. It should be remembered that diplomatic corps personnel in Sierra Leone import many items duty free; hence, a portion of total consumer imports is consumed by the expatriate population but is exempt from import duties.

The desirable level of import duties levied on articles consumed by low-income groups in the population also should be considered in relation to other types of taxation which are levied on this group. In Sierra Leone, income taxes are payable on incomes of £201 per year or over.[3] Personal taxes[4] are levied by the local administrations on all adult males at the rate of 30 shillings ($4.20) a year. Export duties are also levied on diamonds and agricultural exports.

In view of the relatively low rates of taxation in Sierra Leone compared with those in Ghana and Nigeria, and the desire on the part of

[1] Bicycles are one of the major exceptions.

[2] Dixon-Fyle estimated that 6 percent of total food consumed was imported in 1949–1953 and 8 to 10 percent in 1953–1957; see page 46.

[3] The rate was lowered from £500 and PAYE (withholding) was introduced in 1963.

[4] For a discussion of these, see John F. Due, *Taxation and Economic Development in Tropical Africa, op. cit.,* pp. 61-82.

Table 28. — Individuals Assessed for Income Taxes, Sierra Leone, 1952–1963[a]

Year	Non-company trades and professions	Government employees and pensioners	Non-government employees	Total number (excluding companies)
1952–53	893	864	689	2,446
1953–54	970	868	798	2,636
1954–55	986	844	730	2,560
1955–56	1,027	848	783	2,658
1956–57	1,051	848	1,021	2,920
1957–58	1,103	977	1,255	3,335
1958–59	1,166	1,222	1,369	3,757
1959–60	1,400	1,215	1,266	3,881
1960–61	1,690	3,339	2,796	7,825
1961–62	2,024	5,817	4,327	12,168
1962–63	2,903	6,868	5,866	15,637

[a] Income Tax Department Reports.

the government to foster economic development, it would appear that import duties[1] on items consumed by the low-income groups are justified so that all sectors of the population make a contribution to development and to the cost of government services.

Some indication of the growth of income over time is seen from Table 28 which gives the number of individuals assessed for income taxes from 1952 to 1962–63, although rates changed during this period.

An indication of the distribution of income among middle and upper income individuals in 1962–63 is seen in Table 29, which gives the number of individuals assessed for income tax by income range. It will be noted that 78 percent of the total had incomes of £1,000 per year or less in 1962–63.

Estimates of the proportion of imports in total consumption made by Dixon-Fyle for broad categories of consumption goods for selected years are shown below.[2]

	1949–1953	*1949–1957*	*1953–1957*
Food	6%		8-10%
Beverages	...	80-90%	....
Tobacco	...	90%	....
Household goods	...	Under 50%	....
Clothing	...	90%	....
Other consumers	...	Over 90%	....

[1] For a discussion of these, see John F. Due, *op. cit.*, pp. 83-101.

[2] S. Randolph Dixon-Fyle, "The Use of Foreign Trade Statistics in Industrial Development Programming," *op. cit.*, Table 1, p. 15. (Dixon-Fyle is a Sierra Leone economist currently on the staff of Fourah Bay College, University College of Sierra Leone. His household goods category includes automobiles and bicycles.)

Table 29. — Non-Company Assessments by Income Range, Sierra Leone, 1962–1963[a]

Income range (in pounds)	Non-company trades and professions	Government employees and pensioners	Non-government employees	Total
0– 500	850	4,989	3,519	9,358
501– 1,000	785	1,107	996	2,888
1,001– 1,500	423	372	578	1,373
1,501– 2,000	346	209	452	1,007
2,001– 3,000	360	154	238	752
3,001– 4,000	82	29	52	163
4,001– 5,000	27	4	20	51
5,001–10,000	26	4	10	40
Over 10,000	4	0	1	5
Total	2,903	6,868	5,866	15,637

[a] Income Tax Department Reports.

CHANGES IN CONSUMER GOODS PURCHASED AS INCOMES RISE

At least two other indicators exist which indicate trends in changes in consumer goods purchased as incomes rise. One of these is a comparison of percentages of family expenditures allocated to different categories of consumption in 1951 and 1961 and the other is a comparison with changes which have occurred in neighboring Nigeria.

Sierra Leone Family Expenditures

The first comparison, from a household expenditure study carried out in 1951 in Freetown of 383 households with incomes of less than 240 shillings per month (lower income) and with incomes of 240 shillings ($37.43 at 1951 and current exchange rates) or more per month,[1] is shown in Table 30. (Fifty-five percent of the households surveyed had incomes of less than 240 shillings per month.)

In the expenditures of the two income groups shown in Table 30, note the reduction in percentage of total expenditures allocated to rice, dried bonga (bony fish), kerosene, firewood, palm wine, and leaf tobacco as the level of income rose; note also the increases in total expenditures allocated to meat, bread, dried and fresh fish, groundnut oil, butter, tomato puree, fresh fruit, sugar, milk, soft drinks, electricity, other alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, rent, durable goods, education, laundry, transportation, medicines, soaps, and bluing and starches as incomes rose.

[1] K. M. Francis, *Report on the 1951 Freetown Survey of Household Budgets*, Freetown: Government Printing Department, 1955. One-person households were excluded.

Table 30. — Percentage Distribution of Expenditures of Lower and Higher Income Families, Freetown, November, 1951[a]

Expenditure items	Lower income[b]	Higher income[b]
Food		
Bread	3.3	5.3
Rice	20.6	11.2
Foofoo (fermented cassava)	2.0	2.2
Farina	.8	.7
Rolled oats	0	.5
Dried bonga (fish)	9.3	2.9
Other dried and salted fish	2.3	4.1
Fresh fish, by cut	.9	2.1
Fresh fish whole (grade I)	1.3	2.1
Fresh fish whole (grade II)	1.5	1.9
Meat	1.3	4.6
Groundnut oil	.6	2.5
Palm oil	7.3	4.2
Butter	0	1.4
Sweet potatoes, cassava, and yams	.8	.8
Onions (imported)	1.7	1.3
Potato and cassava leaves	2.0	1.6
Tola, egusi, ogiri, and kenda (nuts and seeds)	.9	.8
Peppers	1.8	1.1
Salt	.7	.5
Tomato puree (tinned)	.6	1.1
Groundnuts	1.4	0
Fruit (fresh) and coconuts	.5	.7
Sugar	1.6	2.1
Milk	.8	2.4
Coffee	.8	.9
Soft drinks	0	1.1
Total	64.8	60.1
Fuel and light		
Electricity	0	.8
Kerosene	2.8	1.5
Matches	.7	.5
Firewood	4.2	3.2
Total	7.7	6.0
Drink and tobacco		
Palm wine	1.0	.5
Other alcoholic beverages	.6	2.2
Cigarettes	1.0	1.9
Leaf tobacco (imported)	1.5	1.0
Snuff	.7	0
Total	4.8	5.6
Clothing		
Men's and boys' suits, jackets, pullovers	0	.5
Men's and boys' shorts, trousers, overalls	.6	0
Men's and boys' shirts, vests, pants	.9	.8
Women's and girls' cotton outerwear	.9	.5
Women's and girls' head-ties	.7	.6
Men's and boys' footwear	.7	.8
Women's and girls' footwear	.5	.8
Umbrellas	.6	.5
Men's and boys' suiting	0	.5
Men's and boys' drill	1.1	.7

Table 30. — Continued.

Expenditure items	Lower income[b]	Higher income[b]
Women's and girls' cotton and cotton print	1.2	.8
Women's and girls' other than cotton	.5	.6
Tailoring charges	.7	1.0
Total	8.4	8.1
Rent and rates		
Total	9.7	10.4
Other items		
Durable goods	1.8	2.0
Education	.7	.9
Entertainments	0	.5
Laundry	0	1.2
Bus fares	0	1.1
Medicines	0	1.5
Toilet soap and razor blades	.6	1.0
Washing soap	.9	1.0
Bluing and starch	.6	1.0
Total	4.6	9.8

[a] K. M. Francis, *Report on the 1951 Freetown Survey of Household Budgets,* Freetown, 1955 as given in *I.L.O. Report, op. cit.,* Table 5, p. 59.
[b] Lower income families had incomes of less than 240 shillings per month ($37.43). Higher income families had incomes of 240 shillings per month or more.

It is interesting to note that the percentage of expenditures allocated to clothing fell as income rose; this may be due to the lower-income families not having stocks of clothing and therefore having to purchase more; also quality is not constant and poorer families often purchase poorer quality which wears out sooner.

In 1955 the government employed W. B. Reddaway to examine the cost-of-living indexes and make recommendations. Mr. Reddaway recommended, after a ten-day stay in Sierra Leone, that a single index be computed covering only the lower-income group. "Mr. Reddaway also made some modifications in the weights prepared by Mr. Francis, based on discussion with his advisory committee and a review of available statistics."[1] Reddaway's recommendations and the distribution of expenditures for the low- and higher-income families appear in Table 31.

A comparison of the distribution of expenditures of Freetown households in 1951 (as modified by the Reddaway recommendations outlined above) and 1961 is shown in Table 32. These changes in distribution of expenditures are indicative of income growth between 1951 and 1961 although age, family composition, prices, or income have not been held constant during the two periods. The proportion of expendi-

[1] *I.L.O. Report, op. cit.,* p. 3.

Table 31. — Distribution of Household Expenditures, Freetown, 1951[a]

Expenditure groups	Percent distribution of expenditures, November 1951		
	Lower income families	Higher income families	Reddaway's modification, 1955
Food	64.8	60.1	65.0
Fuel and light	7.7	6.0	7.5
Drink and tobacco	4.8	5.6	5.0
Clothing	8.4	8.1	6.5
Rent	9.7	10.4	10.0
Other items	4.6	9.8	6.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

[a] *I.L.O. Report, op. cit.*, p. 3.

Table 32. — Comparison of the Distributions of Expenditures of Freetown Households, 1951 and 1961[a]

Item groups and subgroups	Percentage distribution of expenditures	
	1951 (as modified in 1955)[b]	1961
Food		
Rice, bread, and other grain products	25.5	16.4
Fish	13.5	14.3
Meat	1.5	3.4
Fats and oils	8.0	8.4
Fruits and vegetables	5.2	5.2
Other foods, condiments and non-alcoholic beverages	11.3	9.8
Total	65.0	57.5
Fuel and light		
Firewood, charcoal, kerosene, matches	7.5	6.6
Electricity	0	1.0
Total	7.5	7.6
Drink and tobacco		
Alcoholic drink	1.8	1.3
Cigarettes and tobacco	3.2	1.9[c]
Total	5.0	3.2
Clothing		
Ready made:		
Men's and boys' clothing and footwear	1.8	2.3
Women's and girls' clothing and footwear	1.5	2.2
Clothing materials	2.7	2.2
Tailoring charges	.5	.7
Total	6.5	7.4
Miscellaneous items		
Rents and rates	10.0	12.4
Durable goods	2.0	2.3
Toilet goods and washing materials	2.0	2.8
Services and other items not elsewhere classified	2.0	6.8
Total	16.0	24.3
All items		
Total	100.0	100.0

[a] Source: *I.L.O. Report, op. cit.*, Table 8, p. 63.
[b] See Table 31, last column.
[c] Including kola nuts.

Table 33. — Distribution of Low Income Workers' Expenditures by Item Groups and Sub-Groups, Freetown and Mining Areas, 1961[a]

Item groups and subgroups	Freetown		Diamond area		Marampa	
	Average household expenditure[b]	Percent distribution	Average household expenditure[b]	Percent distribution	Average household expenditure[b]	Percent distribution
Food and drink						
Rice, bread, and other grain products	661	16.4	223[c]	10.8[c]	448[c]	21.9[c]
Fish	577	14.3	266	12.9	261	12.8
Meat	137	3.4	194[c]	9.4[c]	37	1.8
Fats and oils	339	8.4	115[c]	5.6[c]	183	8.9
Milk, milk products, and eggs	101	2.5	15	.7	12	.6
Fruits and vegetables	210	5.2	98	4.8	106	5.2
Sugar, salt, and condiments	153	3.8	33[c]	1.6[c]	72	3.5
Other foods[d]	77	1.9	21	1.0	55	2.7
Non-alcoholic beverages	48	1.2	27	1.3	15	.7
Alcoholic beverages at home	52	1.3	106	5.2	58	2.8
Food and drink not at home	16	.4	16	.8	14	.7
Total	2,371	58.8	1,114	54.1	1,261	61.6
Housing						
Rent and rates	500	12.9	46[c]	2.2[c]	153[c]	7.5[c]
Fuel and light	306	7.6	177[c]	8.6[c]	144	7.0
Furniture and household goods	93	2.3	107	5.2	71	3.5
House repairs and maintenance	20	.5	.5	.2	12	.6
Total	919	22.8	335	16.3	380	18.6
Clothing						
Readymade clothing, footwear, jewelry, and accessories for:						
Men and boys	93	2.3	110	5.3	107	5.2
Women, girls, and infants	89	2.2	44	2.1	33	1.6
Clothing materials	89	2.2	68	3.3	14	.7
Tailoring, clothing, and shoe repair	28	.7	25	1.2	20	1.0
Total	299	7.4	247	12.0	174	8.5
Miscellaneous						
Medical care and supplies	24	.6	15[c]	.7[c]	17[c]	.8[c]
Personal care and supplies	48	1.2	31	1.5	30	1.5
Laundry and laundry supplies	105	2.6	48	2.3	33	1.6
Tobacco and kola nuts	77	1.9	80	3.9	73	3.6
Recreation and radio	40	1.0	14	.7	9	.4
Education and reading	16	.4	3	.1	6	.3
Transportation	81	2.0	68	3.3	10	.5
Contributions, dues, gifts, and expenses[d]	52	1.3	103	5.0	54	2.6
Total	443	11.0	362	17.6	232	11.3
All items						
Total	4,032	100.0	2,058	100.0	2,047	100.0

[a] *I.L.O. Report, op. cit.*, Table 11, pp. 77-78.
[b] In shillings per year.
[c] Subsidized item.
[d] Not elsewhere classified.

tures allocated to food decreased from 65 percent in 1951 to 57.5 in 1961. In addition food consumption patterns changed during the decade. Expenditures on rice showed a marked decline; people bought more bread and other grain products than rice. The percentage spent on meat more than doubled in the ten-year period. The percentage of expenditures allocated to clothing increased as did that on rents, durable goods, toilet articles and household supplies, services, and other items not elsewhere classified.

The mean income of families sampled in 1961 was 5,218 shillings per annum ($731) and the mean expenditure 4,433 shillings ($621).

A comparison of 1961 expenditures of households whose main earner earned £20 per month or less in Freetown and the mining areas is given in Table 33. Freetown households had significantly higher incomes than households in the diamond or iron ore mining areas.

It must be remembered, however, that the data are not exactly comparable as housing, fuel, light, and some food items available at company-owned stores are subsidized at the mines. There are also some significant differences in income when the households are classified by religion (see Appendix Table 10); members of the Christian religion had the highest average incomes, followed by Muslims and other faiths.

Nigerian Experience

The Nigerian level of income and general economy is more similar to that of Sierra Leone than is the Ghanaian; the level of per capita income in Ghana is more than double that in Sierra Leone or Nigeria. Expenditure studies carried out in urban areas of Nigeria have broader income coverage than the Sierra Leone studies, yet indicate the same general pattern of shifts in expenditures as income increases; two examples of such studies are given in Appendix Tables 11 and 12. As incomes rose, family food expenditures on staples decreased significantly and the proportion allocated to fruits and vegetables fell slightly, while the proportion allocated to meat, fish and eggs, oils and fats, other food, and purchased meals increased (see Appendix Table 13).

In a study of demand for imports of farm products in Nigeria, Ian Stewart concluded that "for the various categories of lower-income-group households, expenditures on 'importable' food frequently approach but rarely exceed one quarter of total food expenditure. Throughout the range of the middle-income surveys, on the other hand, such constituted a somewhat higher proportion of total food purchases, but one which rose much more slowly with income, from 25 to 30 percent below about 1,000 shillings per month (income), to 30 to 35

percent above these limits. These figures afford very little reason for supposing that there is any income group for which this fraction would consistently exceed 35 percent."[1]

It is to be expected that in Sierra Leone, also, as incomes rise, there will be a tendency to purchase a higher proportion of imported consumer goods unless local production commences in Sierra Leone or within a tariff-free area including Sierra Leone or unless higher import duties or other taxes reduce the demand.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This study was designed to compare the relative rates of growth of consumer expenditures and national income between 1950 and 1963 in a small country desirous of fairly rapid economic development. Annual government estimates of consumer expenditures or national income were not available for this period; however, spot estimates of GNP were available as well as the Transportation Consultants' estimate. The latter shows GNP to have grown at an average annual rate of 9.9 percent measured in current prices between 1950 and 1961. Since there was little manufacturing in Sierra Leone during this period and since most consumer goods are locally grown or imported, imports of consumer goods rather than total consumption expenditures were examined.

Extensive data on external trade entering through the port of Freetown are available for the period under review. There was considerable smuggling across the Guinean and Liberian borders, especially of diamonds out of the country from 1954 to 1960, and of other commodities in and out as prices varied from one country to another.

The official trade data were reclassified so that consumer goods could be separated from capital goods. The analysis showed that consumer goods retained in Sierra Leone constituted a smaller proportion of total imports in 1963 than in 1950, having increased at about the same average annual rate as GNP during this period. Total retained imports increased at a slightly higher average annual rate than GNP — 11.4 percent per year compared with 9.9 percent for GNP. However, certain classes of imported consumer goods — foods, transportation (passenger autos and motorcycles and their parts), medical and per-

[1] *Nigeria: Determinants of Projected Level of Demand, Supply, and Imports of Farm Products in 1965 and 1975,* ERS-Foreign-32, Economic Research Service, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington: 1962, p. 63. See also I. G. Stewart and H. W. Ord, editors, *African Primary Products and International Trade,* Edinburgh University Press, Edinburgh: 1965, pp. 115-124.

sonal care, reading and recreation items, and other consumer goods — increased at a higher average annual rate than GNP, total retained imports, or consumer goods imports. Therefore, it is recommended that feasibility studies (some of which are already under way) be undertaken to ascertain whether significant import substitution could be achieved and the pace of economic development quickened by local production of commodities such as sugar, bakery products, onions and fresh vegetables, and increased production or better marketing or both of rice, fish, and meat products.

Imports of alcoholic beverages and household goods have been increasing at about the same average annual rate as total consumer goods imports, but local production of alcoholic beverages has begun and imports have already shown a decrease. Among the varied items included in the household goods classification, local production of furniture has already begun and it is possible that increased local production of soap, mattresses, matches, pots and pans, and cutlery could be considered. Local production of tobacco and local manufacture of cigarettes have already cut tobacco and cigarette imports and will continue to do so although imported cigarette tobacco will still be required for blending purposes.

Clothing and footwear imports increased at an average annual rate of 4.8 percent; local production of plastic and other footwear, umbrellas, garments, and knitwear has either commenced or will shortly commence in Sierra Leone.

If Sierra Leone follows the experience of other developing countries one can expect a tendency for the proportion of imported goods in total consumption expenditures to rise as incomes increase unless local production keeps pace with demand or import duties or other taxes reduce the purchases. However, local production of commodities which are presently imported should not be encouraged if inefficient industries arise demanding high tariff protection for a long period (unless the government feels it is in the national interest to support such industries).

As more local production of consumer goods occurs, the government can expect revenue from import duties to decline; since this is a very important source of revenue to the government and since the government is committed to a policy of as rapid economic development as possible, it may be necessary to reappraise the tariff rates together with general tax policy in an effort to supplement government revenues by a more general type of wholesale sales tax or graduated personal taxes or both. Specific types of tax policy recommendations are beyond the scope of this study. However, since the general level of taxation in

Sierra Leone is relatively low compared with that in Nigeria or Ghana, and since the contribution to development expenditures from local sources has been declining in recent years, this type of taxation reappraisal may be needed.

The value of Sierra Leone's agricultural exports has fallen since the diamond boom in 1954. In an effort to reverse this trend and to increase foreign exchange earnings and agricultural productivity, agricultural exports should be encouraged. It would appear that with improved marketing practices agricultural exports could be further diversified; citrus fruits, pineapples, bananas, mangoes, and avocado pears might be shipped to the European market where trial shipments of some of these fruits have already been accepted.

The government is encouraging the further processing of oil kernels in Sierra Leone; this not only increases foreign exchange earnings but also provides important livestock feed which otherwise would have to be imported. Increased plantings of feed grains would also reduce imports and assist the livestock and poultry enterprises.

APPENDIX

Consumer Goods Classification Categories From Annual Trade Report Data:[a]

1. **Clothing, footwear and jewelry:**

1950–1953:

All of Group 5 (except 98, 098, 99, 099, 100, 0101, 101, 110, 113, 137, and 138)
263
301

1954–1963:

All of the 650s (except 655–061, –062; 656–011, –019, –020, –030, –041, –049; and 657–030, –040, –xx0)
673–010 and –020
841
851
899–030 and –050

2. **Household goods:**

1950–1953:

110	238	260
113	239	261
137	240	264
138	241	268
139	244	278
140	245	282
141	252	283
159	253	292
160	254	293
177	258	297
237	259	303

1954–1963:

313–021	664–030	716–112	831–xx0
533–011	–040	–119	864–xx1
552–021	665–010	721–021	–xx2
–022	–020	–029	–xx9
–029	–091	–030	899–010
–030	–099	–121	–020
641–xx0	666–xx0	812–041	–081
656–030	699–131	–042	–091
–041	–132	–044	–120
–049	–139	821–010	–130
657–030	–140	–020	–131
–040	–150	–091	
–xx0	–160	–099	
	–170		

3. **Recreation and reading:**

1950–1953:

142	204	231
143	205	242
184	220	270
185	222	271
	223	272
	224	273
	225	289
	229	299
	230	300

1954–1963:

591–013	721–041	861–021	891–020
642–020	–049	–022	–xx1
–030	733–010	–029	–xx9
691–xx1	–020	862–010	892–010
–xx2		–020	–020
–xx3		–030	899–132
–xx4		863–010	–140
			–150
			–160
			–210

4. **Transportation:**

1950–1953:

198	208	213
199	211	216
202	212	217
203		

1954–1963:

629–011	732–011	–014
–012	–012	–020
–015	–013	–070
–016		

5. **Other consumer goods:**

1950–1953:

304

1954–1963:

671–010	–220	899–xx0
672–xx0	861–090	911–010
699–080	892–xx9	931–021

6. **Medical and personal:**

1950–1953:

152
269
288

1954–1963:

313–051	–091	–012	629–020
541–010	–092	–013	699–171
–020	–099	–014	–172
–030	551–xx0	–019	861–030
–040	552–011		

[a] The classifications were changed in 1954 to meet U.N. trade classification specifications.

Appendix Table 1. — Post Office Savings Bank Transactions, 1950–1963[a]

Year[b]	Deposits (£ thousands)	Withdrawals (£ thousands)	Net change (£ thousands)	Accounts open at end period (thousands)	Accumulated balance		
					Per account (pound)	At end of period (£ thousands)	Annual change (£ thousands)
1950	271	294	−23	42	21	866	...
1951	296	269	27	46	20	934	68
1952	398	279	119	50	22	1,076	142
1953	394	338	56	53	22	1,159	83
1954	459	376	83	56	23	1,271	112
1955	513	391	122	59	24	1,425	154
1956	601	529	72	63	24	1,532	107
1957	599	562	37	66	24	1,605	73
1958	551	584	−33	68	24	1,617	12
1959	609	711	102	71	22	1,570	−47
1960	479	504	−25	73	22	1,589	19
1961	460	447	13	75	22	1,648	59
1962	408	463	55	77	21	1,639	−.9
Average annual increase, 1950 to 1962:				5.2%		5.5%	

[a] *Quarterly Statistical Bulletin*, No. 3, September 1964, Central Statistics Office, Freetown.
[b] Years 1950–1957 are calendar years. 1958–59 is the 15-month period from January 1958 to March 1959. Later periods are the 12-month periods beginning April of the earlier year shown.

Appendix Table 2. — Deposits in Principal Banks of Sierra Leone, 1950–1963[a]

Year	Deposits (£ thousands)					Percent change
	Total	Demand	Time	Savings banks	Time and savings	Time and savings
1950	1,423	1,090	178	155	333	0
1951	1,736	1,397	167	172	339	0
1952	2,042	1,705	136	201	337	0
1953	2,119	1,705	136	201	337	0
1954	2,370	1,980	115	275	390	15.7
1955	2,995	2,479	140	376	516	32.3
1956	3,691	2,942	167	582	749	45.1
1957	4,058	3,110	138	810	948	26.6
1958	4,269	3,137	159	973	1,132	19.4
1959	4,288	2,894	191	1,203	1,394	23.1
1960	4,522	2,892	175	1,455	1,630	16.9
1961	5,382	3,385	276	1,721	1,997	22.5
1962	6,262	3,930	323	2,009	2,332	16.8
1963	6,370	3,638	359	2,373	2,732	17.1
Average annual increase:					17.6%	

[a] Ministry of Finance.

Appendix Table 3. — Major Domestic Exports of Sierra Leone, 1950–1963[a]

Year	Agriculture		Diamonds[b]		Other minerals		Total	
	£ thousands	Percent	£ thousands	Percent	£ thousands	Percent	£ thousands	Percent
1950.....	3,482	52	1,650	25	1,494	22	6,661	100
1951.....	6,577	67	1,372	14	1,597	16	9,855	100
1952.....	6,110	62	1,217	12	2,533	26	9,900	100
1953.....	5,760	49	1,198	10	4,715	40	11,701	100
1954.....	6,360	58	1,700	15	2,899	26	10,974	100
1955.....	4,590	46	1,400	14	3,904	39	9,927	100
1956.....	4,454	37	3,457	28	4,203	35	12,127	100
1957.....	4,011	27	6,425	43	4,550	30	15,008	100
1958.....	4,415	27	7,184	43	4,605	28	16,541	100
1959.....	5,324	32	6,809	41	4,146	25	16,400	100
1960.....	4,768	18	16,482	64	4,282	16	25,927	100
1961.....	4,033	16	15,969	63	5,843	23	25,162	100
1962.....	4,001	24	7,109	43	5,211	31	16,643[c]	100
1963.....	4,159	16	16,165	64	5,007	20	25,445	100
Average annual increase, 1950–1963:	1.4%		19.2%		9.8%		10.9%	

[a] Annual Trade Reports. Note that "other items" are included in the total export data, with agriculture, diamonds, and other minerals making up approximately 98 percent of the total each year.

[b] Diamond smuggling during the 1950's has been estimated at £10 million, £12 million, £14.5 million, £9.5 million, and £11 million, respectively for the years 1954–1958. It is believed illicit diamond sales declined rapidly after 1959.

[c] The 1963 figure includes approximately 5.3 million of 1962 production exported in the first quarter of 1963 (bank estimate).

Appendix Table 4. — Unit Prices (F.O.B.) of Principal Exports of Sierra Leone, 1950–1963[a]

Year	Agricultural products						Minerals	
	Cocoa (£ per cwt.)	Coffee (£ per cwt.)	Ginger (£ per cwt.)	Kola nuts (£ per cwt.)	Palm kernels (£ per ton)	Piassava (£ per cwt.)[b]	Diamonds (£ per carat)	Iron ore (£ per ton)
1950.....	3.9	4.0	12.5	5.0	32	2.6	[c]	[c]
1951.....	14.6	[c]	12.0	6.0	60	2.3	2.9	1.3
1952.....	15.5	[c]	5.7	7.0	61	2.0	2.9	1.9
1953.....	14.0	16.0	4.0	5.3	62	3.6	2.9	3.9
1954.....	23.0	18.0	7.0	10.0	55	3.0	3.9	3.1
1955.....	17.0	11.0	10.2	9.7	44	2.6	3.5	3.0
1956.....	10.0	11.0	11.0	6.4	44	3.0	5.4	3.1
1957.....	9.8	12.0	7.0	7.0	44	2.8	7.5	3.1
1958.....	15.5	13.3	4.0	6.6	44	2.4	4.8	3.1
1959.....	13.5	10.0	5.0	8.0	54	2.2	5.8	2.7
1960.....	10.7	6.2	6.3	5.5	53	2.4	8.0	2.6
1961.....	8.3	5.9	6.8	5.2	42	2.5	7.8	2.7
1962.....	8.0	6.5	19.3	4.7	40	2.4	6.1	2.6
1963.....	9.8	10.8	[c]	7.9	46	2.4	[c]	2.5

[a] Annual Trade Reports.
[b] Combined average for prime and other.
[c] Not available.

Appendix Table 5. — Index of Unit Prices of Major Exports of Sierra Leone, 1950–1963[a,b]

Year	Agricultural products						Minerals	
	Cocoa	Coffee	Ginger	Kola nuts	Palm kernels	Piassava	Diamonds	Iron ore
1950	47	68	184	96	76	104	[c]	[c]
1951	176	[c]	176	115	143	92	37	49
1952	187	[c]	84	135	145	80	37	70
1953	169	271	59	102	148	144	37	144
1954	277	305	103	192	131	120	50	115
1955	205	186	150	186	105	104	45	111
1956	120	186	162	123	105	120	69	115
1957	118	203	103	135	105	112	96	115
1958	187	225	59	127	105	96	62	115
1959	163	169	74	154	128	88	74	100
1960	129	105	93	106	126	96	102	96
1961	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1962	96	110	284	90	95	96	78	96
1963	118	183	[c]	152	110	96	[c]	92
Range	230	237	225	102	72	40	65	95

[a] Appendix Table 4.
[b] 1961 = 100.
[c] Not available.

Appendix Table 6. — Quantities of Major Domestic Exports of Sierra Leone for Selected Years, 1950–1963[a]

Year	Agricultural products					Minerals		
	Cocoa (thousand tons)	Coffee (thousand tons)	Kola nuts (thousand tons)	Palm kernels (thousand tons)	Piassava (thousand tons)	Diamonds (thousand carats)	Iron ore (thousand tons)	Chrome ore (thousand tons)
1950	1.6	.3	1.1	71.3	5.0	638	1,143	13.9
1951	1.8	.0	1.5	75.1	6.1	477	1,185	11.9
1952	[b]	[b]	[b]	[b]	[b]	423	1,379	24.0
1953	1.6	1.1	1.2	68.9	2.6	417	1,200	26.1
1954	[b]	[b]	[b]	[b]	[b]	444	877	15.1
1955	2.2	2.1	1.1	57.6	4.3	401	1,332	17.7
1956	[b]	[b]	[b]	[b]	[b]	648	1,328	18.8
1957	2.0	3.8	.7	53.0	4.3	863	1,445	16.4
1958	[b]	[b]	[b]	[b]	[b]	1,490	1,423	11.2
1959	2.6	4.9	.7	57.5	5.1	1,205	1,503	5.0
1960	3.2	5.1	1.4	54.5	5.8	2,055	1,540	14.7
1961	2.8	5.0	1.0	57.8	5.7	2,045	1,758	9.0
1962	4.7	2.4	.9	61.0	5.2	1,158	1,983	9.4
1963	3.2	3.9	.6	52.8	5.6	1,739	1,954	8.7

[a] *Quarterly Statistical Bulletin* and *I.B.R.D. Report*, Table 22.
[b] Not available.

Appendix Table 7. — Index of Quantities of Major Exports of Sierra Leone, 1950–1963[a,b]

Year	Agricultural products					Minerals		
	Cocoa	Coffee	Kola nuts	Palm kernels	Piassava	Diamonds	Iron ore	Chrome ore
1950	57	6	110	123	88	31	65	154
1951	64	(c)	150	130	107	23	67	132
1952	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)	21	78	267
1953	57	22	120	119	46	20	68	290
1954	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)	22	50	168
1955	79	42	110	100	75	20	76	197
1956	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)	32	76	209
1957	71	76	70	92	75	42	82	182
1958	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)	73	81	124
1959	93	98	70	99	89	59	85	56
1960	114	102	140	94	102	100	88	163
1961	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1962	168	48	90	106	91	57	113	104
1963	114	78	60	91	98	85	111	97
Range	111	96	90	39	61	80	63	234

[a] Appendix Table 6. [b] 1961 = 100. [c] Not available.

Appendix Table 8. — Consumer Price Index, Freetown, 1950–1961[a,b]

Year	Food	Rent	Fuel	Clothing	Household utensils	Miscellaneous	Total
1950	50.2	101.0	82.1	93.6	100.0	93.0	55.4
1951	73.4	101.0	84.1	118.7	100.0	96.5	74.1
1952	85.4	101.0	125.1	120.4	100.0	100.0	85.7
1953	86.8	101.0	101.8	112.6	100.0	100.0	84.8
1954	95.0	101.0	97.0	99.0	100.0	100.0	89.3

Year	Food	Rent	Fuel and light	Clothing	Drink and tobacco	Miscellaneous	Total
1955	95.0	101.0	97.0	99.0	111.0	100.0	97.0
1956	102.4	105.8	101.2	97.3	125.4	102.3	103.5
1957	113.3	112.8	118.9	96.1	128.2	107.9	113.0
1958	101.1	125.4	118.3	95.9	140.0	112.5	107.1
1959	101.5	139.3	112.2	96.0	138.7	118.5	108.6
1960	99.5	152.4	114.0	95.1	133.0	121.3	108.6
1961	102.2	172.1	124.1	95.9	135.8	120.9	113.3

[a] *Quarterly Statistical Bulletin*, No. 4, December 1964. Items for years 1950–1955 have been calculated and tied in on the basis of 1954 = 1955. The index was revised in 1955 so 1950–1954 categories and weights are different from those in 1955–1961.
[b] Based on 1955 weights, second quarter, 1955, prices = 100.

Appendix Table 9. — Yearly Average Consumer Price Index, Freetown[a]

Year	Food	Rent	Fuel	Clothing	House-hold utensils	Miscel-laneous	Total
1939	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1946	280	108	198	328	245	159	232
1947	266	108	168	338	253	159	233
1948	283	108	180	348	258	159	242
1949	302	108	195	308	255	159	250
1950	314	108	204	275	255	159	255
1951	459	108	209	349	255	165	341
1952	534	108	311	354	255	171	392
1953	543	108	253	331	255	171	389
1954	594	108	241	291	255	171	410

Year	Food	Rent	Light and fuel	Clothing	Drink and tobacco	Miscel-laneous	Total
1955 weights[b]	650	100	75	65	50	60	1000
1955 2nd quarter	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1955	95	101	97	99	111	100	97
1956	102	106	101	97	125	102	103
1957	113	113	119	96	128	108	113
1958	101	125	118	96	140	113	107
1959	102	139	112	96	139	119	109
1960	100	152	114	95	133	121	109
1961	102	172	124	96	136	121	113

1961 = 100[b]	Food and drink	Housing	Clothing	Miscellaneous	Total
1962	96	106	97	105	99
1963	90	124	96	106	100

[a] Labour Department.
[b] Weights and categories changed in 1955 and 1961 as the index was revised.

Appendix Table 10. — Family Cash Income of Mineworkers in Sierra Leone by Religion of Head and by Area, 1961[a]

Religion	All families		Families with incomes of: (shillings per month)			
	Number	Median income	100–199	200–299	300–399	400 and over[b]
Marampa						
Christian	40	244	13	16	9	2
Muslim	124	173	85	34	3	2
Other	12	175	9	3	0	0
Total	176	182	107	53	12	4
Yengema						
Christian	54	196	28	24	1	1
Muslim	65	193	35	23	7	0
Other	25	157	22	2	0	1
Total	144	185	85	49	8	2
Tongo						
Christian	34	200	17	15	2	0
Muslim	55	183	33	18	3	1
Other	1	0	0	1	0	0
Total	90	190	50	34	5	1
Bambawo						
Christian	17	239	5	9	2	1
Muslim	36	207	17	14	5	0
Other	1	0	0	1	0	0
Total	54	221	22	24	7	1
All Areas						
Christian	145	215	63	64	14	4
Muslim	280	182	170	89	18	3
Other	39	163	31	7	0	1
Total	464	188	264	160	32	8

[a] *I.L.O. Report, op. cit.*, Table 10, p. 76.
[b] Income from principal earner did not exceed £20 per month.

Appendix Table 11. — Proportional Expenditure by Basic Income Group, All Occupations, in Kaduna and Zaria, Nigeria, 1955–1956[a]

Expenditure group	Basic income group — shillings per month					
	Less than 100	100–149	150–249	250–349	350 and over[b]	All incomes[b]
	(percent)					
Accommodations	6.1	7.5	8.5	10.5	9.0	8.2
Food	61.6	52.5	46.7	43.2	43.5	49.8
Drink	3.0	4.0	6.4	7.5	10.8	6.3
Tobacco and kola	6.6	6.1	4.2	3.2	2.5	4.6
Fuel and light	6.4	6.3	5.1	4.5	4.5	5.4
Transportation	1.8	1.6	4.8	3.7	2.8	3.0
Clothing	10.4	14.2	14.0	13.2	12.0	12.7
Other purchases	2.6	5.3	5.9	9.0	9.2	6.2
Other services	1.5	2.5	4.4	5.2	5.7	3.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

[a] Nigeria Federal Department of Statistics, *Urban Consumer Surveys in Nigeria:* Report on Inquiries into the Income and Expenditure Patterns of Wage-Earner Households in Kaduna and Zaria, 1955–56, Lagos: Federal Government Printer 1959, Table 40, p. 44.
[b] Income from the main occupation did not exceed £400 per year.

Appendix Table 12. — Proportional Expenditure by Basic Income Group, All Occupations, Lagos, Nigeria, 1959–1960[a]

Item	Income group — shillings per month				
	Less than 150	150–249	250–349	350–549	550–1,333
	(percent)				
Accommodations	20.5	13.8	13.5	11.6	8.4
Food	46.4	46.6	41.0	41.4	39.4
Drink	5.8	7.2	7.6	9.3	7.0
Tobacco and kola	4.5	5.7	3.5	2.9	2.2
Fuel and light	2.9	2.9	3.2	3.3	3.2
Transportation	7.3	6.6	10.2	6.3	7.6
Clothing	7.4	6.5	9.8	10.7	13.7
Other purchases	3.4	5.1	5.2	6.8	8.9
Other services	1.8	5.6	6.0	7.7	9.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

[a] *Urban Consumer Surveys in Nigeria:* Report on Inquiries into the Income and Expenditure Patterns of Lower and Middle Income Wage-Earner Households in Lagos, 1959–60, Lagos: Federal Ministry of Information Printing Division, 1963, Table 18, p. 15.

Appendix Table 13. — Average Monthly Percentage Expenditure on Food Items per Household Within Income Groups, Lagos, Nigeria, 1959–1960[a]

Item	Income group — shillings per month				
	Less than 150	150–249	250–349	350–549	550–1,333
Staples	45.4	42.4	40.6	38.6	35.3
Meat, fish, and eggs	31.3	34.1	34.1	37.8	38.4
Oils and fats	3.7	4.3	4.5	4.8	4.8
Fruits and vegetables	9.1	8.0	7.5	6.8	8.3
Other food	6.3	6.4	8.3	7.6	7.8
Bought meals	4.2	4.8	5.0	4.4	5.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

[a] *Urban Consumer Surveys in Nigeria, op. cit.,* Table 22, p. 18.

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